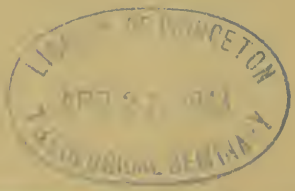

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Presbyterian Church in the
U.S.A. Synod of New York.
Minutes of the ... annual
session of the Synod of New
1897-1907

MINUTES

OF THE

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL SESSION

OF THE

SYNOD OF NEW YORK,

HELD IN THE CITY OF UTICA,

OCTOBER 19–22, A. D. 1897,

WITH AN APPENDIX.

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1897.

THE OFFICERS OF THE SYNOD.

MODERATOR.

Rev. Joseph Gamble, D.D., Plattsburgh.

VICE-MODERATOR.

Rev. William Force Whitaker, Albany.

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The Presbyterian Building, New York.

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TEMPORARY CLERKS.

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Rev. W. Courtland Robinson, Potsdam.

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TREASURER OF SYNODICAL MISSIONS.

Albert P. Stevens, Esq., 59 State St., Albany.

THE

SYNOD OF NEW YORK

A. D. 1897.

The Synod of New York met, agreeably to appointment, in the Westminster Church, Utica, on Tuesday, the 19th day of October, A. D. 1897, at half past seven o'clock P. M., and was opened, by invitation of the Moderator, with a sermon by the next preceding Moderator, the Rev. Howard Duffield, D. D., on John 18 : 38, "Pilate saith unto him, What is truth?" and John 19 : 5, "And Pilate saith unto them, Behold the Man." The Moderator, Ruling Elder Ralph E. Prime, of the Presbytery of Westchester, followed with an address on "Representation in the Church Courts, and the Causes and Evils of Unequal Representation."

The Synod was organized with prayer by the Moderator.

The roll was called, and the following Ministers and Ruling Elders were found to be present, as duly appointed delegates from the Presbyteries :

THE ROLL OF THE SYNOD.

I. PRESBYTERY OF ALBANY.

Ministers.	*Ruling Elders.*
James Gardner, D. D.	William Bullock.
Walter Scott Brown.	James P. McFarland.
Alexander Rankin, D. D.	Peter C. Don.
Alfonso R. Olney, D. D.	George Lasher.
John Dooly.	Walter B. Goold.
William F. Whitaker.	Willard J. Heacock.
Daniel J. Many, Jr.	John McKenzie.
Frederick N. Rutan.	
George L. McClelland.	

II. BINGHAMTON.

Ministers.	*Ruling Elders.*
Samuel Dunham.	George F. Hand, M.D.
G. Parsons Nichols, D. D.	George J. Michelbach.
George N. Macdonald.	Albert P. McGraw.
William J. Gregory.	
John T. Stone.	

III. BOSTON.

William E. Archibald, Ph. D.
William H. Dexter.
David B. McMurdy (2).

IV. BROOKLYN.

Lewis R. Foote, D. D.	George H. Southard (2).
Louis Wolferz.	John J. Tower.
Alfred H. Moment, D. D.	James M. Ham (2).
Augustus B. Prichard.	Edgar T. Reid.
George N. Makely.	Charles C. Mackay.
William J. Hutchins.	

V. BUFFALO.

Henry Ward, D. D.	Horace Briggs.
Jacob Freshman, D. D.	C. Perry Harris.
Morton F. Trippe.	Hervey S. Champlin.
William J. McKittrick (2).	
William D. Jones.	
Edward M. Sharp.	
Alton H. Cowles.	

VI. CAYUGA.

Henry Schlosser.	William J. Donovan.
Edward H. Adriance.	Charles P. Mosher.
Oliver T. Mather.	William H. Van Sickle.
Alvin R. Pennell.	George L. Ferris.

VII. CHAMPLAIN.

Joseph Gamble, D. D.	George E. Barber.
William B. Lusk.	Charles L. Hubbard.

VIII. CHEMUNG.

Ministers.	*Ruling Elders.*
Albert Livermore.	Matthew H. Gray.
Charles H. Kilmer.	George M. Wells,
Frederick L. Benedict.	Emmett B. Russell.
Murray H. Gardner.	

IX. CHILE.

X. COLUMBIA.

Ezekiel D. Van Dyck.	Orlando Post.
Chester C. Thorne.	
Albert B. Judson (2).	

XI. EASTERN PERSIA.

XII. GENESEE.

John McK. Brayton.	William R. Halbert.
Arthur E. Brigden.	James H. Loomis.
Henry R. Fancher.	Edwin A. Miller.

XIII. GENEVA.

Asher B. Temple.	Richard J. Harford.
Edwin H. Dickinson.	Eli A. Bronson.
Henry A. Porter.	John Kilpatrick.
Henry W. Maier.	Peter Wyckoff.

XIV. HUDSON.

Luther Littell.	Nathaniel J. Kelsey.
Charles Beattie, D. D.	Peter E. Miller.
John W. Keller.	Hawley J. Russell.
John H. Jensen.	Augustus Denniston.
William M. Yeomans.	Ira G. Corwin.

XV. LONG ISLAND.

William H. Littell (3).	Jesse D. Hawkins.
Arthur Newman.	Marcus E. Griffin.
Charles E. Craven.	Samuel N. Davis.

XVI. LYONS.

Luther A. Ostrander, D. D.	Smith D. Wood.
Vernon N. Yergin.	Frederick W. Griffith.
John A. Black.	

XVII. NASSAU.

Ministers.	*Ruling Elders.*
Rockwood MacQuesten.	William J. Colman.
J. Howard Hobbs.	
Charles Park.	
Charles O. Gray.	

XVIII. NEW YORK.

George Alexander, D. D.	John Stewart.
James Chambers, D. D.	Henry R. Elliott (2).
Howard Duffield, D. D.	Silas B. Brownell (2).
George S. Webster.	Henry W. Jessup.
A. Woodruff Halsey.	James Martin.
John R. Davies, D. D.	Ezra P. Hoyt, M. D. (2).
William R. Harshaw, D. D. (2).	John W. Mack.
Alexander H. McKinney, (3).	Fred Bruckbauer.
John Balcom Shaw, D. D. (2).	
P. Butler Tompkins.	

XIX. NIAGARA.

Alpheus P. Meeker, Ph.D.	William F. Evans.
Nelson B. Chester.	
Benjamin M. Nyce.	

XX. NORTH LAOS.

Jonathan Wilson.

XXI. NORTH RIVER.

Julius Straus.	Charles B. Warring.
Frederick B. Savage, D. D.	Alfred B. Clarke.
Cornelius S. Stowitts, D. D. (3).	Hiram Van Steenbergh.
Thomas D. Elder.	Robert J. Stuart.
Plato T. Jones.	

XXII. OTSEGO.

Newton M. Hall (2).	Daniel McMullen.
Robert I. MacBride.	
Edward L. Chichester.	
Ernest L. Tiffany.	

XXIII. ROCHESTER.

Ministers.	*Ruling Elders.*
Newton J. Conklin.	Franklin S. Stebbins.
Josiah E. Kittredge, D. D.	William A. Hubbard.
Hiram H. Kellogg.	James Todd.
James S. Root.	
Peter Lindsay.	
Richard D. Harlan (2).	
Albert Evans.	
Frederick N. Lindsay.	

XXIV. ST. LAWRENCE.

L. Merrill Miller, D. D.	John A. Vance (2).
Frank W. Townsend.	Alexander Turnbull.
Allen Macy Dulles (2).	Horace S. Whitmarsh.
W. Courtland Robinson.	Rufus L. Sisson.

XXV. SIAM.

XXVI. STEUBEN.

Samuel W. Pratt.	Orton O. Laine.
Charles Noble Frost.	Sylvester J. Beals.
Edgar P. Salmon.	Charles E. Clark.
Frank H. Bisbee.	

XXVII. SYRACUSE.

Cyrus P. Osborne.	Edwin S. Walker.
Frederick C. Suits.	Chauncey W. Clark.
Silas E. Persons (2).	Ernest W. Rice.
John C. Mead.	
Edward A. McMaster.	
George Nicholls.	
H. Grant Person.	

XXVIII. TROY.

Donald MacGregor.	Mallory D. Schoonmaker.
William Reed, D. D.	William H. Hollister, Jr.
Charles B. Atwood (2).	George W. Eddy.
Charles H. Van Wie.	Horace B. Silliman, LL. D.
Joseph P. White.	Thomas Collins.
Obadiah C. Auringer.	Franklin Field.

XXIX. UTICA.

Ministers.	*Ruling Elders.*
Chester W. Hawley.	John McLean.
Thomas J. Brown, D. D.	George C. Schraeder.
Burnett T. Stafford.	Chester A. Ball (2).
Frank W. West.	George G. Marsh (2).
Robert C. Hallock, Ph. D.	Charles B. Cowles (2).
John C. Ball.	
William C. Spicer.	

XXX. WESTCHESTER.

George F. Pentecost, D. D. (2).	Sanford R. Knapp.
Oliver S. Dean, D. D.	Ralph E. Prime, LL. D.
William B. Waller (2).	Hezekiah King.
J. Ritchie Smith.	Henry Strang.
Charles S. Lane.	James H. Thompson, Jr.
John A. Ingham.	
Alvah G. Fessenden.	
James H. Rankin.	

XXXI. WESTERN PERSIA.

The Rev. Joseph Gamble, D. D., of the Presbytery of Champlain, was elected Moderator by a unanimous vote, and was duly inducted into office.

The Rev. Newton J. Conklin, of the Presbytery of Rochester, and the Rev. W. Courtland Robinson, of the Presbytery of St. Lawrence, were chosen Temporary Clerks.

The Committee of Arrangements presented the following recommendations, which were adopted :

1. That the daily sessions be from quarter-past nine o'clock A. M. until twelve o'clock noon, and from two o'clock P. M. until five o'clock P. M.

2. That the daily devotional services be held in the Chapel, to continue three-quarters of an hour, and to be conducted on Wednesday by Rev. John Balcom Shaw, D. D., on Thursday by Rev. William J. McKittrick, and on Friday by Rev. Frederick B. Savage, D. D.

3. That the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper be administered in the Church on Wednesday, at two o'clock P. M., the service to be conducted

by Rev. G. Parsons Nichols, D. D., and Rev. Lewis Ray Foote, D. D., assisted by Ruling Elders James H. Loomis, Robert S. Williams, Henry H. Cooper, Horace B. Silliman, George A. Clark and Frank A. Bosworth; and that the members of the Woman's Committee on Home Missions be invited to unite in the service.

4. That delegates be requested to present their railway certificates on Wednesday, in order to obtain reduced rates for return tickets; as a member of the Committee, Rev. Stanley B. Roberts, and a representative of the Trunk Line Association will be in attendance on that day only.

5. That on the invitation of the Committee of Arrangements the members of the Synod attend a reception and collation to be given in the Chapel of the First Church on Thursday from 5.30 until 7.30 P. M.

6. That on Wednesday, at three o'clock, Rev. George C. Yeisley, D. D., Rev. George F. Pentecost, D. D., and Rev. John R. Davies, D. D., be heard in connection with the report of the Committee on Systematic Beneficence; that at four o'clock, Rev. M. Woolsey Stryker, D. D., be heard in behalf of Hamilton College; and at 4.30 o'clock Rev. John R. Davies, D. D., be heard in behalf of the Board of Aid for Colleges and Academies.

7. That on Wednesday, at 7.30 o'clock P.M., a popular meeting in the interest of Home Missions be held in the First Church, Horace B. Silliman, LL. D., to preside, and addresses to be delivered by Rev. John Hall, D. D., and Rev. D. J. McMillan, D. D.

8. That on Thursday, at 3.30 o'clock, Rev. Benjamin L. Agnew, D. D., be heard in behalf of the Board of Ministerial Relief, and at four o'clock Rev. William H. Weaver, D. D., be heard in behalf of the Board of Missions for Freedmen.

9. That on Thursday, at 7.30 P. M., a popular meeting in the interest of Foreign Missions be held in the First Church, the Moderator to preside, and addresses to be made by Rev. Thomas Marshall, D. D., and Rev. George F. Pentecost, D. D.

Adjourned until Wednesday, at quarter-past nine o'clock A. M

Concluded with prayer.

WEDNESDAY, October 20, 9:15 o'clock A. M.

The Synod met and spent three-quarters of an hour in devotional services.

Prayer was offered by the Moderator.

The roll was called, and delegates not previously enrolled, (marked 2), were reported as being present.

The minutes of Tuesday's session were read and approved.

The Moderator announced the appointment of the REV. WILLIAM FORCE WHITAKER, of the Presbytery of Albany, as Vice-Moderator, and also the following

STANDING COMMITTEES:

1. BILLS AND OVERTURES:

Elder—Ralph E. Prime.

Ministers—James Gardner, Henry Ward, Thomas J. Brown, G. Parsons Nichols, Charles S. Lane, William Reed, Asher B. Temple, Lewis R. Foote, Jonathan Wilson.

Elders—James H. Loomis, Mallory D. Schoonmaker, Henry W. Jessup, George E. Barber, Franklin S. Stebbins, Charles P. Mosher, Charles B. Warring.

2. JUDICIAL BUSINESS:

Ministers—Alfonso R. Olney, Alfred H. Moment, James Chambers, Josiah E. Kittredge, Cyrus P. Osborne, L. Merrill Miller, Benjamin M. Nyce, William H. Dexter, J. Howard Hobbs.

Elders—Sanford R. Knapp, Eli A. Bronson, Horace B. Silliman, Edwin A. Miller, Peter E. Miller, George F. Hand, Orton O. Laine, Frederick W. Griffith.

3. MINUTES OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY:

Ministers—J. Ritchie Smith, Daniel J. Many, Jr., Henry A. Porter.

Elders—Matthew H. Gray, John W. Mack.

4. Finance:

Elders—Horace Briggs, John Stewart, Hezekiah King, Willard J. Heacock, Albert P. McGraw.

5. Leave of Absence:

Ministers—Chester C. Thorne, Edgar P. Salmon, Morton F. Trippe.

Elders—Charles C. Mackay, George L. Ferris.

6. Nomination of Visitors to Colleges, etc.:

Ministers—Luther A. Ostrander, Frederick B. Savage, Charles Beattie, Chester W. Hawley, Edwin H. Dickinson.

Elders—William R. Halbert, Jesse D. Hawkins, James Martin, William F. Evans.

7. Nomination of Woman's Committee on Home Missions:

Ministers—Henry R. Fancher, Alexander Rankin, Donald MacGregor, Albert Livermore, Charles N. Frost.

Elders—John McLean, Chauncey W. Clark, James H. Thompson, Jr, Orlando Post.

8. Nomination of Trustees of the Synod, etc.:

Ministers—Peter Lindsay, John C. Mead, Oliver T. Mather, George S. Webster, John T. Stone.

Elders—William H. Hollister, Jr., John J. Tower, Alexander Turnbull, Edwin W. Rice.

9. To Collate the Reports on the Records of the Presbyteries:

Ministers—Samuel Dunham, Murray H. Gardner, Frank W. Townsend.

Elders—Franklin Field, Edwin S. Walker.

On the Records of the Presbyteries:

1. Albany: *Ministers*—Oliver S. Dean, John C. Ball; *Elder*—Peter Wyckoff.

2. Binghamton. *Ministers*—Walter S. Brown, Charles H. Van Wie; *Elder*—John Kilpatrick.

3. Boston: *Ministers*—John Dooly, William J. Gregory; *Elder*—George C. Schraeder.

4. Brooklyn: *Ministers*—William E. Archibald, Vernon N. Yergin; *Elder*—Richard J. Harford.

5. Buffalo: *Ministers*—Frederic N. Rutan, George N. Macdonald; *Elder*—George Lasher.

6. Cayuga: *Ministers*—George L. McClelland, George N. Makely; *Elder*—Hervey S. Champlin.

7. Champlain: *Ministers*—William J. Hutchins, John H. Jensen; *Elder*—James P. McFarland.

8. Chemung: *Ministers*—Louis Wolferz, Henry W. Maier; *Elder*—Walter B. Goold.

9. Chile: [No Records.]

10. Columbia: *Ministers*—Arthur Newman, Thomas D. Elder; *Elder*—John McKenzie.

11. Eastern Persia: *Ministers*—Arthur E. Brigden, Edward L. Chichester: *Elder*—James Todd.

12. Genesee: *Ministers*—Alton H. Cowles, Edward H. Adriance; *Elder*—William Bullock.

13. Geneva: *Ministers*—Hiram H. Kellogg, Julius Straus; *Elder*—Horace B. Silliman.

14. Hudson: *Ministers*—Augustus B. Prichard, Rockwood MacQuesten; *Elder*—Peter C. Don.

15. Long Island: *Ministers*—Edward M. Sharp, Alvin R. Pennell; *Elder*—Orlando Post.

16. Lyons: *Ministers*—Ezekiel D. Van Dyck, Charles E. Craven; *Elder*—George J. Michelbach.

17. Nassau: *Ministers*—James H. Rankin, William C. Spicer; *Elder*—Thomas Collins.

18. New York: *Ministers*—Chester C. Thorne, John T. Stone; *Elder*—William H. Van Sickle.

19. Niagara: *Ministers*—William D. Jones, William B. Lusk; *Elder*—George M. Wells.

20. North Laos: *Ministers*—Charles H. Kilmer, Charles E. Craven; *Elder*—Hiram Van Steenbergh.

21. North River: *Ministers*—Robert I. MacBride, Albert Evans; *Elder*—Horace S. Whitmarsh.

22. Otsego: *Ministers*—Plato T. Jones, Frederick N. Lindsay; *Elder*—Rufus L. Sisson.

23. Rochester: *Ministers*—Samuel W. Pratt, H. Grant Person; *Elder*—Sylvester J. Beals.

24. St. Lawrence: *Ministers*—John McK. Brayton, Ernest L. Tiffany; *Elder*—William A. Hubbard.

25. Siam: *Ministers*—James S. Root, Frank H. Bisbee; *Elder*—Alfred B. Clarke.

26. Steuben: *Ministers*—Frederick C. Suits, Obadiah C. Auringer; *Elder*—C. Perry Harris.

27. Syracuse: *Ministers*—Henry Schlosser, Frederick L. Benedict; *Elder*—Ira G. Corwin.

28. Troy: *Ministers*—L. Merrill Miller, Josiah E. Kittredge; *Elder*—Marcus E. Griffin.

29. Utica: *Ministers*—William M. Yeomans, Charles Park; *Elder*—Augustus Denniston.

30. Westchester: *Ministers*—Nelson B. Chester, Alpheus P. Meeker; *Elder*—Charles E. Clark.

31. Western Persia: [No Records.]

Overtures, Memorials, Appeals and Complaints were called for, and the papers presented were placed in the hands of the Stated Clerk.

The Special Committee on an Indian Industrial School presented a report, which was accepted. On its recommendation it was

Resolved, That the thanks of the Synod of New York are tendered to the Secretary of the Interior, Hon. Cornelius N. Bliss, for restoring to the Indian youth of New York the privileges of education at the schools of Hampton and Carlisle; and the Synod trusts that this essential favor will not again be withdrawn.

The Permanent Committee on Home Missions presented a report, which was accepted, and its second recommendation was referred to the Committee on the Minutes of the Assembly. The recommendations were subsequently adopted as a whole. The report is as follows:

1. There has been a most gratifying increase in the gifts to this object during the year ending April, 1897. The amount reported by the Treasurer of the Board is $167,483, and for Synodical Aid $7,879;—a total of $175,362; the largest gift, as far as appears, ever made by this Synod. In this increase Brooklyn Presbytery is notable, adding $14,000 to her gifts of the preceding year. Long Island increased her gifts 30 per cent., and New York added $5,000. Four Presbyteries fell behind: Champlain, Columbia, Niagara and Syracuse.

When it is added that the Synod received less from the Home Board than since 1887, we see that the gain has been decided and most encouraging.

2. Your Committee again must call attention to the confusion which arises from two distinct reports of Home Mission offerings, one in the Assembly Minutes, the other in the Report of the Treasurer. In the Minutes the churches are said to have given to Home Missions $310,656, while in the Report only a little more than half is acknowledged, $175,362. The phrase "Home Missions" is made to cover the local needs as well as those which are extra-presbyterial. As a matter of fact, deducting what the Board expended in the Synod, $31,669, all which this Synod gave to evangelize the destitute portions of the country lying beyond its bounds was $134,693, and not the more magnificent sum of $310,656. It would seem healthier for the churches if the amount given to the Board were distinctly reported in the Minutes, rather than the amount which includes local mission work. This perhaps would be less gratifying to the pride of churches and ministers, but truer to the facts.

3. The ratio between the amount given to Home Missions and to congregational expenses is interesting. The best ratio is that of New York city, $1 given to Home Missions and $8 spent in congregational expenses. Brooklyn comes close with about one to nine; Cayuga is one to ten; Genessee one to eleven, and Geneva nearly the same. At the other extreme is Boston, giving $1, and spending $34 on itself; Buffalo one to twenty-six; Syracuse one to twenty-two, and Rochester one to twenty. There are probably good reasons for these ratios. But if, without diminishing the congregational expenses, all the presbyteries and churches could increase the ratio of what is sent to the needy parts of our country, the result would be most gratifying.

4. Your Committee feels that its work is considerably hampered and overshadowed by what is denominated Synodical Aid. This, to a considerable extent, has engrossed the attention of the Synod at the expense of the wider field of natural Home Mission work. It is the hope of your Committee that

this matter of Synodical Aid may be so settled as not to embarrass the grander work of giving the Gospel to the whole country.

5. Your Committee feels that the great need of the Synod is a wider acquaintance with the claims of the country at large—claims vast and immediate. Fresh and vivid pictures of the field and the foe should be presented to stir the heart of every lover of church and land. While your Committee recognizes with pleasure the improvement made in the "Church at Home and Abroad" and in the "Assembly Herald," yet it feels that these hardly accomplish the desired result of reaching the churches with stimulating information. It is recommended:

1. That the Presbyteries give all possible attention to the work of national Home Missions, and see that every church, if possible, gives to this object.

2. That the Synod commend the action of the last General Assembly in appointing a committee concerning "The Church at Home and Abroad" and "The Assembly Herald."

3. That the Monthly Concert for Missions shall sometimes consider the field of our own country.

The Permanent Committee on Synodical Aid presented its report, which was accepted, and action was deferred. Pending its consideration, prayer was offered by Rev. L. Merrill Miller, D. D., in view of the decease of Rev. James N. Crocker, D. D., late Synodical Superintendent.

The Special Committee on a Plan for Synodical Missions presented a report; and a supplementary report was presented by Rev. Henry Ward, D. D., a member of the committee. The reports were accepted, and action was deferred.

Papers were reported by the Stated Clerk, and referred, as follows:

To the Committee on Bills and Overtures:

1. An Overture from the Presbytery of Binghamton in regard to proposed changes in the Plan of Synodical Aid.

2. An Overture from the Presbytery of Steuben concerning the publication of the Treasurer's Reports.

3. An Overture from the Presbytery of Cayuga in regard to the offices of Stated Clerk and Synodical Superintendent.

4. A communication from Rev. S. E. Wishard, Superintendent of Home Missions of the Synod of Utah.

5. A communication from the American Sabbath Union.

6. An Overture from the Presbytery of Long Island as to the right of a minister of another Presbytery, serving as Stated Supply, to act as Moderator of the Church Session.

7. An Overture from the Presbytery of Western Persia, praying for a dissolution of the Presbytery.

8. Papers from the Presbyteries of Boston and Westchester, asking for a change in the boundary between these Presbyteries, the matter having been laid over from last year for further information.

To the Committee on the Records of the Presbytery of Steuben:

A communication from that Presbytery calling the attention of the Synod to an exception to its Records, made by the Synod last year.

A recess was taken until two o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

WEDNESDAY, October 20, 2 o'clock P. M.

The Synod met, and the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper was administered according to arrangement.

Prayer was offered, and business was resumed.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported as follows, and its recommendations were adopted:

Paper No. 2. An Overture from the Presbytery of Steuben relating to the Treasurer's reports. It is recommended that the subject be referred to the Committee on Finance.

No. 5. A communication from the American Sabbath Union, regarding certain action of the last General Assembly. It is recommended that it be referred to the Committee on the Observance of the Lord's Day.

The Permanent Committee on Systematic Beneficence presented its report, which was accepted, and the Synod was addressed on the subject by Rev. William H. Hubbard, and Rev. John R. Davies, D. D.

Action was postponed to hear the report of the Visitors to Hamilton College, which was presented and accepted, and is as follows:

"Hamilton has fallen upon happy days" was the mental exclaim of your committee as we reached the campus, and saw in every direction the signs of

thrift, activity, and genuine, solid prosperity. The Committee visited the college October 8, and received a cordial welcome from President Stryker and the college authorities.

To the older graduate the face of the venerable Prof. Edward North is a benediction; and Prof. Root well preserves the family name in the chair of mathematics. Many young men have been added to the corps of instructors, and are adorning the places they occupy.

The college is thoroughly equipped in every department, and has a student body of 160 men, the freshman class being larger than usual, numbering 43.

The campus has been enlarged by the purchase of an adjacent farm of 53 acres, thus affording ample space for all kinds of athletics; and when this addition has been laid out and improved as designed, it will afford as spacious and beautiful grounds as any college in our land could desire. Since the last commencement $60,000 have flowed into the treasury for the uses of the college.

Your committee was gratified to witness the improvement and much needed enlargement of the chapel at an expense of $5,000, the gift of that constant and devoted friend of the college, Horace B. Silliman, LL.D.; and an apse created through the liberality of Hon. Chauncey S. Truax, of the class of 1875. By this enlargement, the sittings in the chapel will be more than doubled, and ample room will be furnished for future commencement exercises.

A new Hall of Languages is also in course of erection at the instance of H. H. Benedict, Esq., of the class of 1869, at a cost of $25,000; and the Root Memorial Building, the gift of Hon. Elihu Root, of the class of 1864, at an expenditure of $40,000. These structures are models of modern architecture, and will be completed with the best workmanship, ceiled with cypress, wainscoted with oak, walled with Italian brick, and furnished with all necessary appliances for scientific study.

Special facilities will be afforded for the study of Zoology, Biology, Bacteriology, and cognate sciences.

Of the course of study in every department we need only say that the previous high standard of the college is maintained, and new features are added as necessity appears.

The prospects of the college were never brighter, and perhaps never as bright as now. The enlargement and improvement of the campus, the erection of new buildings and the enlargement and renovation of the old, and the improved financial status of the institution, all tell the story of life, thrift, and advancement.

Moreover, we can commend the college as distinctively and pre-eminently Christian. Nearly one-third of its graduates are ministers of the gospel, the larger part of them being in the Presbyterian Church, and the college thus has a special claim on the Synod. It furnishes a broad yet well rounded curriculum. Its location, remote from the excitements of the metropolis, and from the busy marts of commerce, promotes earnest study, and the fame of its oratorical department has reached the world around. It invites new and constant investigation in the field of truth, while conserving the best fruits of for-

mer discoveries in that realm. Its type of Christianity is noble, vigorous, charitable. Hamilton has well served the church in this Synod and deserves well at our hands, meriting our sons, our gifts, and our prayers. And it will well preserve the trust committed to it.

In connection with the report, Rev. M. Woolsey Stryker, D.D., President of Hamilton College, addressed the Synod by invitation.

The consideration of the report on Systematic Beneficence was resumed, and after an address by Rev. George F. Pentecost, D.D., the recommendations were adopted. The report is as follows:

Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is liberality as well as liberty. The inspired Apostle of progress and liberty, wrote "concerning the collection for the Saints." Our modern evangelists, who speak much concerning the baptism of the Holy Spirit for service, do well to emphasize the need of such a baptism for the giving of our substance. "Systematic and Proportionate giving," as Paul taught it, is a part of Christian doctrine and practice. The Apostles' Creed, as properly amended, reads "I believe in the Holy Ghost, in systematic and proportionate giving, in the Holy Catholic Church, the Communion of Saints," etc.

Our orthodox Communion is committed to the beneficent article of this creed. Her courts are well organized for Christian liberality and systematic beneficence. The Synods statedly provoke the Presbyteries unto words, if not good works, in this direction. The Presbyteries are making it reasonably uncomfortable for the parishes that persist in neglecting the Assembly's injunctions on this subject. What is needed, however, in order to secure a contribution from every church for every Board, and more money for all the Boards, is better organization and more effort on the part of our Church Sessions. Until the Apostolic usage obtains generally in our churches, and our church-members, as a rule, give systematically and proportionately—they that have but little, giving of that little and giving it regularly, and they that have much, and are of the other sex, ceasing to give the "widow's mite," but giving proportionately,—until this day dawns on the church, the question of money-getting will perplex the Committees on Beneficence of every church, and occupy the time, if not the attention, of Synods, until He shall come again Who said "It is more blessed to give than to receive."

The following tables are submitted:

I. A Comparative View of the Total Gifts of the Synod.

Boards.	1896.	1897.	Loss.	Gain.
Home Missions	$303,302	$310,655		$7,353
Foreign Missions	194,069	168,314	$25,755	
Education	17,917	26,449		8,532
Sunday-School Work	31,440	31,165	275	
Church Erection	22,540	26,265		3,725
Relief Fund	23,360	20,860	2,500	
Freedmen	24,473	21,110	3,363	
Sustentation	12,260	12,806		546
Aid for Colleges	13,963	19,781		5,818
Total	$643,324	$637,405	$31,893	$25,974
General Assembly	16,393	16,225	168	
Congregational	2,310,367	2,155,138	155,229	
Miscellaneous	219,635	212,451	7,184	
Anniversary Reunion Fund	92,243		92,243	
Grand Total	$3,281,962	$3,021,219	$286,717	$25,974

II Comparison of the Actual Receipts of the Boards.

Boards.	1896.	1897.	Loss.	Gain.
Home Missions	$134,202	$167,483		$33,281
Foreign Missions	94,875	95,447		572
Education	12,560	11,765	$795	
Sunday School Work	15,482	15,253	229	
Church Erection	12,869	12,215	654	
Relief Fund	21,110	19,839	1,271	
Freedmen	21,218	19,175	2,043	
Sustentation	12,260	7,879	4,381	
Aid for Colleges	7,104	6,692	412	
Total	$331,680	$355,748	$9,785	$33,853

III. Comparison of Payments by the Boards to the Synod.

Boards.	1896.	1897.	Decrease.	Increase.
Home Missions	$36,391	$31,669	$4,722	
Education	6,374	3,835	2,539	
Church Erection	6,500	3,100	3,400	
Relief Fund	18,710	19,210		$500
Total	$67,975	$57,814	$10,661	$500

IV. Comparison of Rates per Member.

Objects.	1896.	1897.	Loss.	Gain.	Entire Church in 1896.	Entire Church in 1897.
To all objects	$18.53	$16.78	$1.75		$14.99	$14.88
To Congregational Expenses and Assembly	13.08	12.08	1.00		10.85	10.48
To Benevolence at Large	5.39	4.72	.67		3.86	2.69
To the Boards of the Church	2.39	1.98	.41			

V. Comparison of Presbyteries as to Collections Omitted.

Presbyteries.	Number of Churches.	Home Missions.	Foreign Missions.	Education.	Sunday-School Work.	Church Erection.	Relief Fund.	Freedmen.	Synodical Aid.	Aid for Colleges.	Number of Blanks.	Possible Collections.	Actual Collections.
Albany	50	2	1	9	4	11	8	10	7	8	60	450	390
Binghamton	30	0	1	8	3	7	5	4	6	7	41	270	229
Boston	43	4	9	16	10	14	19	17	39	23	151	387	236
Brooklyn	34	1	1	5	5	5	4	3	13	6	43	306	263
Buffalo	47	2	9	19	7	20	17	23	16	24	137	423	286
Cayuga	23	3	3	8	4	9	8	7	9	11	62	207	145
Champlain	26	8	6	12	5	8	11	8	12	13	83	234	151
Chemung	23	4	6	12	6	13	11	13	10	13	88	207	119
Columbia	19	1	2	7	4	8	6	5	6	9	48	171	123
Genesee	20	3	3	8	3	8	7	6	7	11	56	180	124
Geneva	22	2	3	4	5	6	5	7	7	7	46	198	152
Hudson	43	0	1	4	4	5	4	5	10	6	39	387	348
Long Island	24	2	3	5	4	6	4	5	6	6	41	216	175
Lyons	18	0	0	2	2	6	4	5	2	7	28	162	134
Nassau	26	0	1	7	7	6	7	6	15	8	57	234	177
New York	54	2	4	12	9	13	9	12	34	24	119	486	367
Niagara	21	2	3	8	2	9	8	8	11	9	60	189	129
North River	31	4	3	10	8	7	6	6	12	11	67	279	212
Otsego	27	2	5	14	3	13	13	8	12	17	87	243	156
Rochester	47	2	1	15	10	15	13	9	18	17	100	423	323
St. Lawrence	32	4	5	13	6	14	10	11	17	14	94	288	194
Steuben	27	0	1	4	1	2	4	3	7	4	26	243	217
Syracuse	44	1	6	15	7	21	16	15	16	22	119	396	277
Troy	41	7	3	9	9	11	7	9	9	13	77	369	292
Utica	45	6	6	15	10	17	13	16	21	20	124	405	281
Westchester	38	3	4	9	4	5	5	4	14	10	58	342	284
Total	855	65	90	250	142	259	224	225	336	320	1911	7695	5784

These tables show that during the past fiscal year, one of much business depression, there was a gain, in contributions to the Boards, of some $24,000. While the grand total, including Congregational and miscellaneous objects, shows a decrease, there is an increase in gifts to our own work. This is as it should be. It is right to be as catholic in our gifts as the sunshine, but not to the neglect of our own needy agencies. The one who provides not for his own household has denied the faith and is worse than an infidel; and the Church that sacrifices worthy agencies of her own that others may be enriched is certainly not orthodox. It may be courtesy to invite all the children of the town to our dinner-tables, but when our own children are crying for bread there is more politeness than Christian principle in the act.

As a second matter of encouragement, there are some 400 fewer blanks in the reports of collections than in 1896, and about 800 less than in 1895. The Greeks of heroic times locked shields and left no blank spaces in their columns as they pressed to battle and victory.

These, with the fact that some $10,000 less than last year has been paid by the Boards to the Synod, are the encouraging features of the statistical reports. The discouraging feature is that there is not a steady increase in our

gifts for all the objects dear to the heart of the Church, and, we believe, to the heart of the Master. It was the famous Tenth Legion of Cæsar's army that did mighty work in extending the borders of the great Empire of Rome. That revival of activity within the church, the Young People's Society of Christian Endeavor, is organizing what is called the "Tenth Legion." If we may prove the Lord by bringing our tithes into His storehouse, we may certainly prove ourselves by the same pious token. The stewardship that consecrates all that we are and have to the Lord, and then uses all of both for self is singularly popular. Surely if under the dispensation of the law the true Israelite gave a tenth of his possessions to the Lord, we under the dispensation of love and liberty cannot give less. The filling up of the ranks of the Tenth Legion in all our churches would mean a mighty forward movement in the work of the Boards. It is recommended:

1. That every pastor in the Synod be requested to preach at least one sermon a year on the duty, privilege and importance of systematic and proportionate giving.

2. That every Church Session be urged to appoint a committee whose duty it shall be to organize in that congregation a Society akin to the Tenth Legion, pledged to the giving of a tenth at least to the Lord.

3. That the Treasurer be authorized to pay the Committee $20 for necessary expenses during the current year.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures was requested to consider the question of providing funds for the assistance of the Permanent Committees of the Synod in the prosecution of their work.

The Rev. Charles S. Dewing, D. D., of the Presbytery of Boston, and Rev. John J. Henning, of the Presbytery of Troy, sent reasons for their absence, which were sustained.

Adjourned until Thursday, at quarter-past nine o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

WEDNESDAY, October 20, 7.30 o'clock P. M.

A popular meeting was held at the First Church in the interest of Home Missions. Elder Horace B. Silliman, LL.D., presided, and addresses were made by Rev. John Hall, D. D., and Rev. Duncan J. McMillan, D. D., Secretary of the Board.

THURSDAY, October 21, 9.15 o'clock A. M.

The Synod met and spent three-quarters of an hour in devotional services.

Prayer was offered by the Moderator.

The Roll was called, and delegates not previously enrolled, (marked 3), were reported as being present.

The minutes of Wednesday's sessions were read and approved.

The Rev. Thomas Marshall, D. D., of the Synod of Missouri, was invited to sit as a corresponding member.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures presented the following report, and the recommendations were adopted:

Paper No. 1. An Overture from the Presbytery of Binghamton on proposed changes in the Plan of Synodical Aid. In view of the fact that the subject-matter of this Overture appears to be sufficiently covered by the Plan reported by the Synod's Special Committee, it is recommended that no action be taken.

No. 3. An Overture from the Presbytery of Cayuga as to combining in one the offices of Stated Clerk and Synodical Superintendent. It is recommended that it be answered in the negative.

No. 4. A Communication from the Superintendent of Home Missions of the Synod of Utah requesting the designation of the Stated Clerk as a "Bureau of Information," to disseminate, at the expense of the Synod, tracts and other information concerning the doctrines and practices of the Mormons. It is recommended that no action be taken.

No. 8. The Synod, in 1896, [See Minutes, p. 44,] having received a petition from the Churches of Holyoke and Springfield, in the Presbytery of Boston, for a change in the boundary between the Presbyteries of Boston and Westchester, with the concurrence of the Presbytery of Boston and action having been deferred, and the Presbytery of Westchester requested to report its desire in the premises to the Synod this year, and said Presbytery having expressed its acquiescence in the change, it is recommended that the Petition of the Churches of Holyoke and Springfield be granted, and that the territory lying within the boundaries of Hampden County, Mass., with the Presbyterian Ministers and Churches therein, be, and it hereby is, transferred from the Presbytery of Boston to the Presbytery of Westchester.

The Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions presented the following report, which was accepted, and after an address by Rev. J. Balcom Shaw, D. D., the recommendations were adopted:

At the beginning of the present ecclesiastical year a definite, practical programme was agreed upon ; and though the members of the Committee are scattered over a somewhat extended area, they have cheerfully and efficiently co-operated in its execution. The Chairman wishes, therefore, at the outset, to give expression to his appreciation of the services of the individual members of his Committee, and to assure the Synod that any work which it has been able to do has been the result of their united and interested labors, rather than to any effort or direction of his own.

The Committee has held several meetings during the year, all of which were largely attended and yielded practical results. A Sub-Committee, consisting of the Rev. Messrs. George S. Webster, J. Ritchie Smith and John E. Adams, have conducted a series of missionary tours through several of the Presbyteries of the Synod. The missionaries who generously gave their services for these visitations were the Rev. W. S. Bannerman, of Africa, and the Rev. Lewis F. Esselstyn, of Persia. These brethren addressed thirty public meetings, and the students of two Theological Seminaries, most encouraging reports coming back to us from their work. The Chairman of one Presbyterial Committee wrote: "Having made inquiry of the brethren in whose churches your representative spoke, I am glad to report great success. They all speak enthusiastically about him, and the plan of sending him among the churches;" and another Chairman, said to be converted to Foreign Missions —strange anomaly— by the missionary's address: "The tour was in every way a blessing to our people. There certainly was much good accomplished throughout the Presbytery." This is the third year that your Committee has organized these missionary itineraries, and they have all been so remarkably successful that it is our purpose to pursue this method of work the coming year with even greater vigor than before.

The plan followed during former years of dividing the Presbyteries of the Synod among the members of the Committee, and holding each member largely responsible for the Foreign Mission interests within those under his care, has been continued. In every case the members have sought to put themselves into communication and co-operation with the Chairmen of the Presbyterial Committees. But, with a few exceptions, they report that all such efforts have proved unavailing. The general testimony is that a large proportion of the brethren whose duty it is to care for Foreign Missions within their respective Presbyteries, are painfully discourteous in their treatment of the personal letters of the Committee; and until such Presbyterial Committees are re-organized, there is little hope of reaching the churches they represent.

Our offer to furnish interesting speakers to Presbyteries and churches organizing public meetings has been honored in every case where responded to, though the demand for such speakers seems, unfortunately, to be waning.

Your Committee sought also to bear its share of responsibility in the Fifth Missionary Congress, which was held June 1–3, in the First Church of Poughkeepsie, providing speakers for the three sessions of the Foreign Mission day and contributing to the liquidation of its expenses.

A review of the year's work is, upon the whole, therefore, most encouraging, and your Committee feels justified in believing that what it has been able to do has helped, to some little degree at least, to advance the interests of the Foreign Mission work within the bounds of the Synod. This encouragement is not wholly unalloyed, however. We have met with many obstacles most stubborn; in many quarters we confront conditions which, unless removed, will continue seriously to embarrass and cripple our work. Prominent among these is the unresponsiveness of many of the Presbyterial Committees. These Committees, in not a few cases, will neither do anything themselves nor allow the Synod's Committee to do anything. They are so stupefied or negativized by indifference or indolence that they constitute a positive barrier to our activity. We call upon all Chairmen not interested to withdraw, and upon those who are interested, but have failed to manifest it, to prove their faith by their works. We appeal to all Presbyteries in the name of the advancing Christ and in response to the Providential pointings of the times, to demand from those into whose hands they have placed the interests of the world's evangelization, organized and continued practical work; and where this is not given, we urge that the Foreign Mission Committees be immediately re-constituted.

Another barrier to progress is the persistent, often subtle, intrusion of outside objects, which divide and absorb the Foreign Mission interest of the churches, and divert a large fraction of their contributions from the treasury of the Board. The time has come—it long since arrived—when the Church must either guard with jealousy its organized and authorized benevolences, or be prepared to see them gradually and ignominiously decline. The Board has declared against this apparently innocent, but actually mischievous, tendency again and again, and its declaration has been as frequently endorsed by the General Assembly. The Committee desires to express its sympathy with this position, and put itself on record as opposed to the habit of an increasingly large number of our churches and church societies of contributing to the work of converting the world through outside and undenominational agencies, rather than through the recognized and organized Board of the Church.

The unsystematic way in which the offerings for this object are made is another serious impediment to our work. Most churches simply take an annual collection, and feel that their responsibility is met when that has been forwarded to the Board. Others leave the cause in the hands of some society, usually a woman's organization; and what is given does not represent the congregation, but only a group of interested persons who are a small fraction of the church. More than 150 churches of the Synod gave absolutely nothing last year, either through a public collection or a society's contribution. We believe that every church should adopt a systematic plan for making its Foreign Mission offerings, either bulking its benevolences and using weekly envelopes, or taking collections at stated times, and after an intelligent presentation of the object, both at the public services and the meetings of the various societies. We commend the plan followed by several churches of having collectors call upon every member, male and female, young and old,

and solicit a gift to the work. We call especial attention to the action of the Presbytery of Westchester in directing the Sessions of its churches to take up the question of systematic beneficence afresh, and it is with peculiar satisfaction that we learn of the wise and efficient methods which earnest conference has led many of its churches to adopt.

But by far the strongest opposition which we meet is the stolid indifferentism of pastors. Their lukewarmness more and more depresses and appals us. Before we can get at a large tier of our churches, larger than any one but a member of our committee—whose judgment is the issue of experience—would believe, we are compelled to force our way through a stone wall of pastoral unfaithfulness. Our ministers and Sessions, we believe more and more, hold the key to the situation. The members' zeal waits upon theirs. They are not leading their people. Local church support absorbs their thought and exhausts their plans. They live for themselves, and therefore by themselves. When will our ministers and elders realize that they stand between Christ and the kingdom, between the Church and the people, that they are the chief determinative factors in the problem of advancing Christianity, and that upon their leadership, their mediatorship, depends much, if not most, of the religious progress of the age? A Foreign Mission pastor and a Foreign Mission Session, whatever the other conditions may be, never fail to have a Foreign Mission Church.

In view of all the facts which have emerged from a calm study of the field and a close grappling with its problems, we present certain recommendations which have been separately considered and unanimously approved by your committee:

1. That the Foreign Mission Committees of all the Presbyteries be enjoined to give themselves anew to the careful and practical organization of their work, and to seek, by the suggestion of methods, distribution of literature, organization of public meetings, and every other possible means, to increase the interest of every church under their care in the work of the world's evangelization.

2. That the Synod remind the Presbyterial Committees of the authoritative jurisdiction of its Permanent Committee on Foreign Missions, and tenderly urge them to give the latter their full support and co-operation.

3. That the cross, gleaming with its universal redemptive purpose, be held up again before the ministers and elders of the Synod, and the Session of every church within its bounds be summoned to a renewed missionary zeal and fresh consecration to the work of carrying the cross forward around the globe.

4. That pastors and Sessions be called upon to guard the missionary offerings of their people, particularly those made by Sunday-schools and young people's societies, and, so far as may be practicable, to prevent their diversion from the treasury of the Board.

5. That a systematic plan for collecting missionary gifts be generally recommended, and all the churches be advised to give the subject intelligent and studied attention.

6. That the effort now making for the liquidation of the debt upon the Board be approved, and the Synod pledge itself to bear its share of the obligation.

7. That the resignation of Mr. Theodore Gilman be accepted, and Mr. John J. Tower, of the Presbytery of Brooklyn, be elected to fill the vacancy.

Subscriptions for the debt of the Board of Foreign Missions were taken, amounting to over $5,000; and it was ordered that a special offering for the same object be asked at the popular meeting this evening.

The Board of Examiners of Elmira College presented the following report, which was accepted:

The last graduating class was the largest sent out of the Institution. We are glad to report that the Freshman class more than fills up their number, and additions have been made to the other classes from thirteen different States. Nearly all the rooms are occupied, and the number of boarders is largely increased.

There has been a marked change in the attitude of the City of Elmira toward the College; it being now one of appreciation and enthusiasm, as was manifested at Commencement, when the city, from the stores to the drayman's whip, was decorated with the college colors, and the President's reception was attended as never before. The citizens of Elmira, of all denominations, realize that it is their College as well as the Synod's; and that its welfare is largely committed to them.

The interior of the College building has been thoroughly renovated, and changes have been made in the dining and other rooms, which have added much to their attractiveness and convenience.

The addition of Prof. Forbes to the scientific staff marks an advance in that department, and through his efforts a full set of apparatus has been obtained for biological research. A new scientific building is greatly needed. Meanwhile the present apartments have been re-arranged, and plans are in progress for a room for the Museum in the third story of Gillette Hall.

During the year Rev. A. Cameron MacKenzie, D. D., has entered upon the Presidency of the College, relieving Dr. Cowles, who, after his long and successful administration, was able to bridge over the interim without loss. The executive ability of President MacKenzie has already brought forth very marked improvement, both in the interior arrangements of the college and in the gathering of students, and we feel assured that this is only the beginning of good things. The College has not only recovered from the times of discouragement, but is on a rapid up-grade, and we believe brighter days and a larger growth are before it. The instruction given continues to be of a

high order, and in the department of English it long ago anticipated the present demand for a higher grade of teaching, giving a full four years' course to English Literature and History. While good scholarship is required, the young ladies have unusual social advantages, enjoy the fellowship of their teachers, and live in a home atmosphere.

The English Bible is taught by Prof. Gardner, and the graduates of the College come forth with a knowledge of the Bible as a book, as well as of its doctrines and duties, and filled also we believe with its spirit. The Christian Association of the College is in harmony with those of other Colleges, and besides promoting the spiritual interests of the students, is doing College Settlement work as far as it comes within its reach.

We earnestly commend the College to the Synod as a place where its daughters can obtain a higher education in a refined Christian home. It remains now for the Synod to give its hearty co-operation to its President as he seeks to complete the endowment, and to increase the number of students. The City of Elmira has raised more than its half of the hundred thousand dollars toward the endowment fund, and waits for the friends of the College, in the Synod outside, to complete it before July next, and then go on with it to larger things.

The report of the Fifth Missionary Congress was presented and accepted, and its recommendations were adopted, as follows:

The Fifth Missionary Congress of the Synod was held in the First Church, Poughkeepsie, June 1–3, 1897. The first day, known as General Board Day, was given up to a consideration of the work of the Boards of Church Erection, of Missions for Freedmen, of Aid for Colleges, of Education, and of Ministerial Relief. The second day was devoted to Foreign Missions, and the concluding day to Home Missions. The work of these boards was powerfully presented by no less than forty expert speakers in addresses of acknowledged and exceptional brilliancy. The mass meetings held in the evenings, in the interest of Sunday-school and Young People's work, Foreign Missions and Home Missions, respectively, were notably successful, and produced what must prove an abiding impression upon the residents of the community and the attending delegates.

The attendance was larger than at any previous Congress, all the Presbyteries but three—Genesee, Geneva and Niagara—many Presbyterial Societies, and a large number of Churches being represented. Not only was the Congress a conspicuous success in numbers and enthusiasm, but equally in its financial outcome. With the co-operation of the Synod's Foreign Mission Committee, all its expenses, which were by no means small, were met with ease, and a balance of upwards of $75 was left in the treasury. At the closing session the Congress gave utterance to an impulse which had been growing stronger and stronger through each succeeding session, and at the last was wholly irresistible, by making a memorial offering for the work of the two main Boards of the Church. A sufficient amount was raised to found three native preacherships on the foreign field, and to establish a scholarship in one

of the Home Mission Schools among the mountain whites of the South. It is hoped and expected that future Congresses will maintain these memorial foundations.

Much of the success of this Congress was due to the cordial hospitality and practical co-operation of the Pastor and people of the Church, who not only received us into their homes, but so organized the local arrangements as to contribute comfort, efficiency and expedition to the work.

It is recommended:

1. That the Synod again cordially approve of the plan of holding an annual Missionary Congress, and commend it to the support of every Pastor and Session.

2. That provision be made for the holding of such a Congress in 1898, the time, place and arrangements to be left to the Executive Committee.

3. That the Synod call the attention of the Presbyteries and Churches to its previous action regarding their representation in the Congress, and urge upon them their compliance with the same.

4. That in the interest of greater economy and efficiency, the Chairmen who have removed from the section where their Committees were originally located be given power to change the personnel of their Committees according to local conditions or requirements.

5. That the following be the officers of the Committee for the ensuing year: Rev. Gerard B. F. Hallock, D. D., *Chairman;* Rev. Samuel T. Clarke, *Secretary;* Rev. E. Huntting Rudd, *Treasurer.*

The Permanent Committee on Education presented the following report, which was accepted, and its recommendation was adopted:

There has been a decrease of contributions to the Board from churches and societies during the year past of $2,930, but happily an increase of 222 in the number of contributing churches, indicating a widening interest in the work of this Board. With the aid of $2,255 received from the Anniversary Reunion Fund, the debt of the Board was reduced last year to $9,220. The total number of candidates under its care was 911, being 126 fewer than in the previous year. Only about $60 each, for the year, was given to college and seminary students, and a smaller sum to students in academies. A recommendation to the last General Assembly was adopted by that body, making $80 per annum to collegiate and theological students the minimum of help hereafter to be rendered, even though the maintenance of this rate should necessitate a farther reduction in the number of candidates received. It is unfortunate that the sum is so small, and that a reduction in the number helped is necessary. It is a fact that we owe the gospel to all men now living in all the world. It is a fact that God has prescribed the means by which this debt shall be paid, and that he selects and calls the agents by whom the task

is to be done. It is the business of the Church to send out these men, with the best possible equipment, as agents and representatives to work in her name. The best equipment requires a full college and seminary training, and it is this work which the Board is set to promote.

Let not the question of any supposed overcrowding in the ministry be raised. The time has not yet come when we have orders to cease calling upon the Lord of the harvest to send forth laborers into His harvest. But even were the ministry overcrowded, it is not overcrowded from this direction. Let it be borne in mind that the men aided by our Board are those who are required to take a full course, and to be thoroughly prepared. If there is to be any closing of the doors, let it be against the many poorly prepared offering themselves, both from our own Church and from other denominations. This, of all times, is the occasion for rallying to the support of our own men and our own Board.

For economy of administration, this Board has the well-earned confidence of the Church. From the beginning it has been administered by men who have striven faithfully to deserve this confidence. Their measure of success has been so great that we gladly renew the testimony of Dr. Charles Hodge, for seven years the President of the Board, that "probably no human agency has ever accomplished so much good with as few failures, at so small an expenditure of money."

We cannot close our report without recording our sorrow for the death of the venerable ex-Secretary of the Board, Rev. Daniel W. Poor, D. D. He died at Newark, N. J., October 11th, in his 79th year. Dr. Poor became Secretary in 1876, and served faithfully for nearly twenty years. He possessed abilities of a very high order, and excelled as a preacher, a writer and an organizer. But it was his genial, sunny disposition, his benignant temperament, his overflowing humor, his deep piety, his kindness of heart, and his quickness of perception that will cause him longest to be remembered. It is recommended:

That we urge anew the claims of this Board upon all our churches, and request pastors to give the fullest possible information to their people in regard to its work, and an opportunity to contribute for its furtherance.

Rev. Benjamin L. Agnew, D. D., of the Synod of Pennsylvania, was invited to sit as a corresponding member.

The Committee on Ministerial Relief presented the following report, which was accepted, and its recommendation was adopted:

The venerable fathers of this venerable body may have heard the story of the tramp who, having told the farmer's wife "he was so hungry he could eat grass," obtained as his considerate and sympathetic answer, "Poor fellow, if you will go to the back of the barn you will find some of the sweetest and tenderest grass on the farm." The Board of Ministerial Relief ever receives the most considerate and sympathetic responses from the courts of the Church. There is nothing but commendation for the beneficent ministry of a Board

whose treasury relieves, to an extent, the needs of some three thousand of the best and noblest of God's children. Yet ecclesiastical commendation is not cash. Last year 295 of the 851 churches of this Synod invited the beneficiaries of this Board, for any help which they extended, to the hospitalities of the verdant fields and the tender mercies of a godless world. Some of these had served the Church for decades; they bear in their bodies the marks of the Lord Jesus; let them go forth like their Master, having nowhere to lay their heads; let them fill up what is behind of His sufferings. Some of these are widows and orphans. Let them endure hardness, as did their husbands and fathers before them! Is it not a crying shame?—$19,839, the total gifts of this wealthy Synod to this Board for the past year, and $19,210 the amount drawn from the treasury for the relief of those recommended by our Presbyteries, leaving the munificent surplus of $629 for the relief of the deserving servants of the Church at large, while 295 churches did not give one cent to this object. It is a spectacle to the angels, but one they are not rejoicing over, as they do over sinners repenting. This condition of things continues from year to year, despite all the recommendations of Synods and Presbyteries. The debt of the Board last year was some $20,000, and it was compelled to cut down the small amounts appropriated to needy ministers. Yet "God has ordained that they which preach the gospel should live of the gospel." But they preach the gospel no longer; they have crossed the dead-line; they are over sixty, seventy, yes. some over ninety years of age. Well, let them go forth into the green fields, where the dumb beasts are fed; and beneath the blue sky let them chant the reproaches of Isaiah, while they wait for the ravens of Elijah! It is recommended:

That the Presbyterial Committees of this Synod be enjoined to lay upon the conscience of the Pastors and Elders of the non-contributing Churches within their bounds the duty of making a collection annually for this Board; and that the contributing Churches be affectionately urged to increase their contributions ten per cent.

The Rev. Benjamin L. Agnew, D. D., Secretary of the Board of Ministerial Relief, addressed the Synod by invitation.

The Visitors to Auburn Theological Seminary presented the following report, which was accepted:

The Visitors to Auburn Seminary were gratified by the many evidences they saw and heard of the good work done by both the instructors and the students, and by the marked advance of the Seminary itself. The time has come for Auburn men to lift up their heads. Auburn is now at the front; her light has come, and the sun has risen upon her. This is not merely the opinion of the Visitors, the Faculty and the Alumni; the brightest, the most penetrating and discerning graduates of Yale and Princeton, from year to year, are feeling and saying that the best place in this country to study theology at the present moment is in a town in central New York. They are not only saying this with their lips, they are directing their feet to the doors of the

little seminary, with the result that its littleness is fast passing away. In 1887 the report from Auburn was that the seminary had an attendance of 46 students, with the prospect of an increase of at least two. In 1897 the enrollment of students is 105, with the prospect of an indefinite increase. The number of students this year from Princeton University alone is equal to a fourth of the whole enrollment ten years ago.

It seems sad that just at this time, when all the skies are bright over Auburn, a crying petition for funds should have to be sent out, and the poverty of the seminary advertised by passing around a collection-box in all the churches. Not so sad, however, is the asking for funds as the necessity for them behind the asking; the fact that the professors are not permitted to eat of the prosperity of their labors, but are compelled to give in or go without a part of their meagre salaries. It seems as if an institution of which the Synod has so much reason to be proud, should be saved from further humiliation by being placed at once upon solid and sufficient financial foundations. If it be recognized, as it must be, that the men who constitute the Faculty have succeeded, by the rank of their minds, by the wealth of their acquisitions, by the thoroughness of their instruction, in making Auburn Seminary the desire of the best graduates of our colleges, then it ought to be the ambition of this Synod not only to keep these men from starving, but to increase the endowments, improve the equipments, enlarge the facilities, and multiply all the attractions of the seminary until they are inferior to those of no other theological school in the country.

The single criticism we have to make, and perhaps not all of the Visitors would concur in it, is that the students of Auburn preach too much, or rather supply pulpits too much. We believe that the young men in all our schools would preach better and longer after they graduate if they preached less and studied more while they are in the seminary. Preaching a Sunday means taking three days out of the week. A student who supplies a pulpit regularly loses half of his seminary course. Three full years of preparatory work are all too little for a young man who hopes to address the minds of this generation with increasing power from year to year.

Rev. William H. Hubbard presented the interests and claims of the *Assembly Herald.*

It was *Resolved*, that a Committee of six ministers and five elders, seven of whom shall be members either of the Synod's present Permanent Committee on Synodical Aid, or of the Special Committee on a Plan for Synodical Missions, be appointed to nominate to the Synod, before its adjournment, a suitable candidate for the office of Superintendent of Synodical Missions.

A recess was taken until two o'clock P. M.

Concluded with prayer.

THURSDAY, October 21, 2 o'clock P. M.

The Synod met and was opened with prayer.

An overture to the General Assembly, as to the interpretation of Chapters VI. and XIII. of the Form of Government, was presented, and referred to the Committee on Bills and Overtures.

The following Committee was appointed to nominate a Superintendent of Synodical Missions: *Ministers*—L. Merrill Miller, William H. Littell, George Alexander, Lewis R. Foote Henry A. Porter, Richard D. Harlan; *Elders*—Ralph E. Prime, Horace B. Silliman, James H. Loomis, George H. Southard, Horace Briggs.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported as follows, and its recommendations were adopted:

Paper No. 6. An Overture from the Presbytery of Long Island, asking whether a Presbytery has authority to designate a member of another Presbytery, who has been chosen by a Church as its Stated Supply, to act as Moderator of the Session. It is recommended that the Overture be answered in the negative, with the following explanatory statement: The Assembly of 1869, [Moore's Digest of 1886, p. 127,] affirmed that "there is no provision for inviting any minister not belonging to the same Presbytery to preside over a meeting of the Session." The attention of the Presbytery of Long Island is, moreover, called to the declaration of the Assembly of 1872, [Digest, p. 137,] that it is the duty of ministers to unite with the Presbyteries within whose bounds they reside.

No. 7. An Overture from the Presbytery of Western Persia, asking that the Presbytery be dissolved, in view of the fact that the Churches in Oroomiah wish to continue their independent organization, that it is desirable to have only one ecclesiastical body in that part of the field, and that the Presbytery is virtually extinct. It is recommended that the Presbytery of Western Persia be, and it hereby is, dissolved; and that the last Stated Clerk, Rev. Samuel G. Wilson, be, and he hereby is, authorized to give to the members of said Presbytery letters of dismission to such Presbyteries, at home or abroad, as they may severally elect to join.

No. 9. A resolution, referred to the Committee, in regard to providing funds for the prosecution of the work of the Benevolent Committees of the Synod. It is recommended, that as there is no rule of the Synod, at present, preventing the payment of the expenses of its benevolent Committees, the respective chairmen are recommended to present, annually, for the consideration of the Synod, statements of the expenses necessarily incident to the prosecution of their work.

Rev. Messrs. A. Cameron MacKenzie, D. D., and James Gardner, D. D., addressed the Synod on behalf of Elmira College.

The following committees were appointed to aid in securing the farther endowment of Elmira College within the bounds of their respective Presbyteries:

1. For General Expenses, $100,000: Rev. Messrs. G. Parsons Nichols, D.D., Louis F. Ruf, Frederick W. Palmer, Edward M. Deems, Ph. D., Robert I. MacBride.

2. For President's Chair, $50,000: Rev. Messrs. John Hall, D.D., David Gregg, D.D., John R. Davies, D.D., Alexander G. Russell, William H. Littell.

3. For Department of Science, $50,000: Rev. Messrs. James Gardner, D.D., Hector Hall, D.D., Joseph Gamble, D.D., Allen Macy Dulles, Thos. J. Brown, D.D., Christopher G. Hazard, William K. Hall, D.D.

4. For Department of Languages, $50,000: Rev. Messrs. George B. Spalding, D.D., William R. Taylor, D.D., William W. Weller, Luther A. Ostrander, D.D., William J. McKittrick. Benjamin M. Nyce, Henry R. Fancher.

5. For Department of Biblical Literature and Christian Sociology, $15,000: Rev. Messrs. Isaac Jennings, D.D., James Gardner, D.D., Richard D. Harlan, Peter R. Ross, J. Balcom Shaw, D.D., Charles Cuthbert Hall, D.D., J. Wilford Jacks, D.D.

The Rev. William H. Weaver, D.D., of the Synod of Baltimore, was invited to sit as a corresponding member.

On the recommendation of the Committee to collate the Reports of the Examining Committees, the Records of the following Presbyteries were approved as far as written: Albany, Binghamton, Boston, Brooklyn, Buffalo, Cayuga, Champlain, Chemung, Columbia, Eastern Persia, Genesee, Geneva, Hudson, Long Island, New York, Nassau, Niagara, North Laos, Otsego, Rochester, St. Lawrence, Siam, Troy, Utica.

Consideration of the reports on a Plan for Synodical Missions was resumed, and, after amendment, the committee's report was adopted, and is as follows:

PLAN FOR SYNODICAL MISSIONS.

The Synod of New York, in proposing a new plan for the care of its weak churches and mission fields, desires to conserve and promote the autonomy of both the Presbytery and the Synod within their respective constitutional limits; while at the same time it encourages the two to work conjointly, and causes the latter to supplement the efforts of the former.

I.

Each Presbytery shall have the entire care of this work within its bounds, subject to the following conditions:

1. Every church receiving aid shall, as far as practicable, be served by a regularly installed Pastor, contribute annually to all the Boards and Funds of the Presbyterian Church, and strive to the utmost of its power to become self-supporting.

2. Presbytery shall endeavor to group contiguous churches receiving aid, especially when there is no near prospect of their attaining self-support.

3. Ordinarily, Presbytery shall require the aid-receiving churches to contribute to the salary of the Pastor an amount equal to an average of not less than $6.50 per member. Exceptions to this rule shall be allowed only for a limited time and upon a special vote of Presbytery.

4. If a Presbytery deems it desirable to appoint a missionary to labor in a destitute field within its bounds where no church is organized, or to make an appropriation for temporary supplies to churches where it may not be possible or advisable to maintain a Pastor, the Presbytery may include the amount thus required in its estimate for the ensuing year.

5. If for any reason a Presbytery fails to use the whole amount appropriated for its use, the balance shall be subject to the control of the Synod's Committee.

II.

To facilitate the care of the weak churches within its bounds, each Presbytery shall appoint a committee charged with the supervision of the work; said committee to be constituted, as far as practicable, with a view to permanence. This committee shall receive and consider all applications for aid, and, after personal conference with the elders of the churches thus applying, shall recommend to Presbytery what churches shall receive aid, what amount shall be allowed them, and with what other churches they shall be grouped. Where there is no other committee charged with that duty, it shall also be responsible for all aggressive mission work within the bounds of the Presbytery, and shall report to Presbytery for its action, what new fields shall be occupied, and what amount is needed to sustain the work within them. At the stated Fall meeting of Presbytery, the Presbyterial Committee shall make a full report for the consideration and action of Presbytery, including in that report a list of the churches under its care that require aid, together with the names of their respective pastors and the amount which each Church needs for its support, and a statement of the amount deemed necessary to expend upon its mission fields. The Stated Clerk shall forward a copy of this report, as approved by Presbytery, to the Chairman of the Synodical Committee, within one week after the action is taken.

III.

Every church desiring aid shall send an application to the Chairman of the Presbyterial Committee of the Presbytery to which it belongs, giving a full statement of its condition and relations, and of the amount needed to

insure the support of its Minister, and no church shall receive aid except as it secures the recommendation of either the Presbyterial Committee or the Presbytery.

IV.

It shall be the duty of each aid-receiving church, as well as of each minister serving such church, and of each Missionary appointed by Presbytery to some mission field, to make a full report on the first day of January, April, July and October to the Chairman of the Presbyterial Committee, and upon the receipt and approval of such report, the Chairman shall issue to such Church or Missionary an order on the Treasurer of Presbytery for the amount due for service to that date.

V.

The Chairmen of the Presbyterial Committees, together with five Elders to be appointed annually by the Synod, shall constitute a permanent committee of the Synod on Synodical Missions. It shall be the duty of this committee to convene annually before the meeting of the Synod; to make an estimate of the amount needed to carry on the work of Synodical Missions for the ensuing year; to recommend to the Synod the amount each Presbytery shall be authorized to draw from this fund, and to suggest such methods as may seem best adapted to secure the required amount. It shall also have power to fill any vacancy that may occur in the office of Superintendent or Treasurer until the next meeting of the Synod. The Chairman shall call a special meeting of this Committee at any time, upon the request of any five members, but a representation from at least ten Presbyteries shall be necessary to constitute a quorum.

VI.

The Permanent Committee of the Synod shall appoint an Executive Committee, which shall have power to act for the Permanent Committee in the interim of its meetings. This Committee shall make a full and detailed report of its action to the Permanent Committee at its next meeting.

VII.

At each of its annual meetings the Synod shall appoint a Superintendent of Synodical Missions, whose term of service shall date from the first day of November following, and whose salary shall be not to exceed $2,000 per annum and necessary expenses upon the field. He shall act in each Presbytery in co-operation with the Presbyterial Committee, and shall devote his time and efforts to the encouragement of weak churches, the procuring of pastors or supplies for vacant churches, and the general fostering and development of the work of the Church throughout the State. He shall report his labors and their results to the Synod annually, to the several Presbyteries as often as practicable, and shall furnish such information to the Permanent Committee as that Committee may desire.

VIII.

At each of its annual meetings the Synod shall appoint a Treasurer of Synodical Missions, whose term of service shall date from the first day of November following. It shall be his duty to receive and administer the funds contributed for this object, subject to the regulations of the Synod. He shall be required to give bonds, in character and amount approved by the Executive Committee, at the expense of the Synod. He shall receipt to donors for contributions; shall deposit in some reliable bank the funds he thus receives, and on the third Monday of March, June, September and December he shall remit to the Treasurer of each Presbytery the quarterly installment due that Presbytery. In case of deficit it shall be his duty to send notice to the Chairman of the Presbyterial Committee in each Presbytery that has not contributed its quota, and make request that prompt measures be taken to secure collections. In connection with the Chairman of the Permanent Committee, he shall also have discretionary power to withhold payments wholly or in part from Presbyteries that are largely in arrears. It shall likewise be his duty on the first day of January, April, July and October to pay to the Superintendent of Synodical Missions the amount due him to that date for salary and necessary expenses. The Treasurer shall keep an accurate account of his receipts and disbursements, and shall report the same to the Synod at its annual meeting.

IX.

The Superintendent and Treasurer of Synodical Missions shall be *ex-officio* members of the Permanent Committee.

X.

The Permanent Committee shall consider the reports of the Presbyterial Committee, and recommend to the Synod the amount which each Presbytery shall be entitled to receive during the next fiscal year. Immediately upon the adjournment of the Synod, the Stated Clerk shall notify the Chairmen of the Presbyterial Committees what action the Synod has taken with reference to their respective Presbyteries, and shall at the same time certify to the Treasurer of Synodical Missions the amount which each Presbytery is authorized to receive during the ensuing year.

XI.

The fiscal year of Synodical Missions shall begin with October 1st and end with September 30th next succeeding.

XII.

The Session of each Presbyterian Church within the State of New York shall give the congregation an opportunity to contribute to Synodical Missions each year. This shall be a substitute for the contribution heretofore made through the Board of Home Missions to the New York Synodical Aid Fund, from which the churches are hereby relieved.

XIII.

At each of its annual meetings the Synod shall apportion the amount required for the next year among the several Presbyteries of the Synod in this State, according to the number of communicants in each Presbytery. These Presbyteries in turn shall apportion the amount assigned as their quota among the churches within their bounds in such a manner as they may deem equitable. For the first year it is recommended that this apportionment among the Presbyteries be fixed at twenty-five cents per member.

XIV.

This plan of Synodical Missions contemplates only those Presbyteries whose churches are chiefly within the limits of the State of New York, and does not include work among the Indians upon reservations in this State.

PLAN OF BEGINNING THE WORK.

All the churches of the Synod are urged to take a collection for Synodical Missions at as early a date as practicable, and, if possible, before January 1st, 1898.

Presbyteries shall continue to recommend churches to the Board of Home Missions until January 1st, 1898, and all ministers and missionaries under appointment by the Board shall retain such relation until their commissions expire.

On and after January 1st, 1898, Presbyteries shall cease to recommend ministers or missionaries to the Board of Home Missions, and shall aid churches and appoint ministers and missionaries as provided in this plan.

The Permanent Committee on Synodical Missions was authorized to settle any questions of detail that may arise in putting the foregoing plan into operation.

The Committee on Finance presented the following report, which was adopted:

The Committee reports that the accounts of the Treasurer of the Synod have been examined, compared with the vouchers, and found to be correct. All the Presbyteries paid their apportionments for the past year. The amount in the treasury, applicable to the payment of outstanding claims and the expenses of the current year, is $1,002.53.

In view of the increasing needs of the treasury, and the probable insufficiency of this balance, it is recommended that the rate of apportionment this year be seven and a half mills for each communicant.

In answer to Overture No. 2, from the Presbytery of Steuben, it is recommended that the Treasurer be requested to publish, annually, in the Minutes, an itemized account of the expenditures.

The Permanent Committee on the Board of Aid for Colleges and Academies presented the following report, which was accepted;

and after addresses by Rev. Messrs. John R. Davies, D.D., and Newton J. Conklin, the recommendations were adopted:

"When thou passest through the waters I will be with thee.' This Board has passed through deep waters during the year; but in view of the characteristic loyalty and devotion to the great cause of Christian education, to which our honored Church is heartily committed, we believe all will yet be well. The Board will come so close to the heart of the Church that its afflictions, far from light, will work out a far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory to the upbuilding of Christian colleges and academies in the great West.

The recent defalcation of the treasurer of the Board has been met squarely and honorably. Declining to shield the culprit, the Board is doing all in its power to make good the loss. The recent appeal of Dr. Herrick Johnson, coupled with his own generous gifts, and backed by the self-denying devotion of the Chicago Presbytery, will do much to this end. With such an example the Church at large will rise in its might and bid the Board "be strong and of a good courage."

This Board is a blood relative of the great Board of Home Missions. Each is seeking to pre-empt and to save the great West for the kingdom of righteousness. No greater work can be done than that of fostering and guiding an educational institution on a distinctively Christian basis in a new country. The Board helps only institutions which have promise of a large future. It expects and obtains large financial returns on its investments. In its institutions large numbers are annually led to Christ. Especial emphasis is put on the Bible as a part of the curriculum, and young men fostered in this atmosphere are entering the Gospel ministry and reinforcing the ranks of our beloved Church. This Synod has always stood nobly by this Board, but we are far behind the Synod of Pennsylvania. Many, too many churches, gave nothing last year. Your Committee appeals in the name of the great Head of the Church for larger gifts this coming year. It is recommended:

1. That the Synod express its deep sympathy with the Board in its present trying situation, and, renewing our confidence in the Board, we pledge ourselves to an increased interest in its spiritual and financial welfare.

2. That every pastor endeavor to secure the hearty co-operation of his church in making the largest possible offering to this Board before the close of the present fiscal year.

3. That in order to secure the utmost efficiency, the Committee be composed of members living in and about New York, and for the coming year as follows: *Ministers*—George Alexander, Anthony H. Evans, John R. Davies, Edward Huntting Rudd. *Elders*—William E. Stiger, D. Willis James, George H. Southard.

4. The Committee shall have power to fill all vacancies.

The Committee on the Place of the Next Meeting reported that a cordial invitation had been received from the Lake Street Church, Elmira, to hold the meeting of the Synod, in 1898, in that Church, and that the invitation is seconded by the Presbytery of Chemung. It is recommended that the invitation be accepted, with the thanks of the Synod.

The recommendation was adopted, and the Pastor and Elders of that Church were appointed the Committee of Arrangements, with power to add to its number.

The Special Committee on Church Temporalities presented the following report, which was accepted, and the Committee was discharged :

By the direction of the Synod, the Committee has secured amendments to the General Religious Corporations Act of the State of New York, pursuant to which, at any corporate meeting, that is of the congregation of an incorporated Church, for the election of Trustees, or the transacting of business relating to property or to temporalities, any person chosen at such meeting to preside, may preside in the place and stead of any of the officers named in the statute.

Also, an amendment which, in express terms, relieves such Church from any of the provisions of the State statute, in meetings for choosing or dismissing a Pastor, or for the transaction of its spiritual affairs; and such meetings are in all cases to be held and conducted as provided by our own Form of Government.

The Moderator was authorized to appoint five Elders to serve on the Permanent Committee for Synodical Missions, and to designate a Convener of the Committee.

Adjourned until Friday, at nine o'clock A. M.

Concluded with prayer.

THURSDAY, October 21, 7:30 o'clock P. M.

A popular meeting in the interest of Foreign Missions was held in the First Church. The Moderator presided, and addresses were made by Rev. Thomas Marshall, D. D., Rev. George F. Pentecost, D. D., and Rev. J. Balcom Shaw, D. D.

FRIDAY, October 22, 9 o'clock A. M.

The Synod met and spent half an hour in devotional services.

Prayer was offered.

The calling of the roll was dispensed with.

The Minutes of Thursday's sessions were read and approved.

The Moderator appointed the following Elders as members of the Permanent Committee on Synodical Missions: Horace B. Silliman, Ralph E. Prime, William E. Dodge, John A. Vance, John H. Osborne. Elder Horace B. Silliman was designated as the Convener of the Committee.

The Committee on Bills and Overtures reported as follows, and its recommendation was adopted:

Paper No. 10, being a proposed Overture to the Assembly, referred to this Committee by the Synod, as to the interpretation of Chapters VI. and XIII. of the Form of Government. It is recommended that the following Overture from the Synod be sent to the next General Assembly, accompanied with a copy of the address, at the opening of the Synod, of the retiring Moderator, Elder Ralph E. Prime:

The Synod of New York respectfully overtures the General Assembly to declare whether, under Chapters IV., X., XI., XII, and XV. of the Form of Government, Ministers not in the pastoral office are entitled to sit in the Ecclesiastical Courts.

The Permanent Committee on Young People's Societies presented the following report, which was accepted:

The number of our Christian Endeavor Societies in New York State is 750, and in New England 86; of Junior Societies 393, an increase of 70. The number of Churches is 891; from which it appears that nearly every Church has a society. Missionary Societies and Bands, Brotherhoods of Andrew and Peter, Red Cross Societies, Boys' Brigades and other organizations for young people are reported. The contributions to Missions as reported by the Boards were, to Home Missions $8,396, and to Foreign $5,794, an increase of $3,181 over last year. It is noteworthy that nearly 28 per cent. of the associate members were added to the Church.

Albany reports great activity in missionary work, the hearty approval of Church officers, and growth in spirituality and Christian usefulness. Boston reports a good spiritual condition, and loyalty to the pledge. Syracuse reports societies as surprisingly flourishing, and Westchester that, with two exceptions, the societies report that their members attend Sunday evening preaching services. Columbia recommends that Pastors train their Societies to turn their benevolence as far as possible towards the Boards of the Church.

Niagara speaks of the development of the social element to the neglect of the spiritual, and commends the Christian Training Course recommended by the Assembly. Binghamton mentions the fraternal visitation of the societies and the holding of an Institute. Steuben has held a missionary visitation of the Presbytery under the auspices of its societies.

The report of Rochester Presbytery is worthy of special mention. It expresses gratitude to God for having put it into Dr. Clark's heart to plant the germ of Christian Endeavor, and gratitude to the latter for the rare skill, sagacity, devotion and superlative success with which he has evolved from that germ a product that has blessed hearts and homes, churches and communities, the world over. It emphasizes the Christian Endeavor platform of principles, which is, that all moneys gathered by the various societies of Christian Endeavor for missions be sent to the Missionary Boards of the special denomination to which the particular Society belongs, and affectionately reminds officers and societies that appeals to them for money should come through their pastors and the officers of their Churches; and when such appeals are addressed to the societies directly, they should be referred to the pastors and Church officers for their approval before being acted on by the societies. It insists upon personal holiness as the first end to be attained by Christian Endeavor. Let us hold to the idea that Christian Endeavor begins in the heart; that the passive virtues must supersede the active; that "to be" must be incarnated before "to do"; that character is first, and then conduct; and that consecration must precede conquest.

The matter of Junior Societies is deservedly receiving much attention. The question of such an organization should depend, in a given case, upon the demand. If there be material for it, and occasion for it, let there be a Junior Society. "Suffer the little children to come unto me." There should be an age limit, and it should be kept a Young People's Society. The Endeavor Society would seem to afford an admirable vantage ground for systematic study of the Bible, Church History, Missions, methods of work and giving, and good citizenship. The Christian Training Course of "The Church at Home and Abroad," is commended, and most of all pastoral watch and care over our Societies is urged. Every pastor has an immense opportunity in this respect. It would be well if he would attend the Endeavor meetings, as far as possible, be a model participant, and keep in closest possible sympathy with the young people of his charge.

The Assembly of 1897 recognized the great good accomplished by the Young People of the Church, expressed appreciation of their earnest spirit and faithful labors, and bade them Godspeed in the year to come. Secretary Baer, of the United Society of Christian Endeavor, himself a Presbyterian Elder, has recently emphasized the fact that this society, while inter-denominational, is, and must be, by its plan of organization, denominational; each society being under the sole care of its own Church. It is for this reason that it has found its stronghold in the Presbyterian Church, and needs nothing more ot organization, but only development under the watch and care of the Session.

We emphasize anew the importance of Young People's Societies, and express appreciation of their spirit and work. We urge a conscientious observance of the pledge, and thorough training in character, work and systematic beneficence for Mission Work, with a study of Missions and current events in the Church. The Christian Endeavor departments of "The Church at Home and Abroad" and "Forward" are highly commended, and especial attention is called to the Plan of Bible Study of the magazine, in the hope that the time is near at hand when the Young People of the Church shall receive more systematic Biblical instruction. The importance of Junior Societies should also be emphasized, and their increase is a hopeful sign; but these demand particular care on the part of the Sessions, to secure the best oversight of able and spiritual conductors. We urge finally that in all this education and training the development of the spiritual life be kept in the foreground, with loyalty to Christ and his Church.

The Permanent Committee on Church Erection presented the following report, which was accepted, and its recommendations were adopted:

For fifty years our Church in this country has used the Board of Church Erection as one of its most efficient instruments. We regret that the past year has recorded a shrinkage in this as in so many benevolent enterprises, but judge that the loss is but temporary, as the five months since the closing of the books in April show a marked advance in receipts. Yet while our denomination has increased in communicants about 20 per cent. the past year, its gifts to this Board have decreased, although 16 per cent. more of the Churches contributed. These have given smaller sums than previously, and more than 3000 of the Churches gave nothing to this important work.

Applications for aid were more numerous last year than in the previous year on account of financial conditions, and a number were of necessity refused, although they were voted worthy of aid. Out of $147,292 asked for, $115,737 was granted. The General Fund granted 122 appropriations, a sum total of $62,847 distributed in 25 Synods. The Loan Fund, which now aggregates $245,000, loaned to ten out of fourteen applicants $33,750. The Manse Fund, which aggregates $86,000, granted $15,385 to 41 Churches.

Nearly a half of the Churches in this Synod gave nothing last year to this Board, 489 out of 929 Churches contributing $12,114. More than one-half of this, or $6,275, they received back from the several Funds.

The Assembly Committee on the Board of Church Erection called special attention in its last report to the importance of wise oversight and interdenominational comity in small and new fields, before grants or loans be made. We emphasize the wisdom of this suggestion, and also recommend:

1. That the Pastors and officers of all the Churches in this Synod be requested to take collections or make some offering for the Board of Church Erection the coming year.

2. That the Presbyteries be requested to instruct their Committees on Church Erection to seek larger contributions to this Board.

3. That the Synod call the attention of the Churches to the needy fields in its own borders, especially in New England, with its increasing population having Presbyterian affinities.

The Visitors to the New York University presented the following report, which was accepted:

In response to the invitation of Chancellor MacCracken, four members of your Committee were most cordially welcomed at University Heights, and were shown the scope, activities and promise of the University. In location, opportunity, and maturing prospects, the institution seems most fortunate; while the keenly intelligent and far-sighted supervision evidenced assures rich promise of splendid achievement. Its ample foundation, catholic tone, and earnest spirit should commend it to the generous patronage of all interested in ideal education. Special endowments for its equipment and the extension of its powers will be most welcome.

Your Committee expresses unqualified approval of the plan and progress of the University, and earnestly bespeaks for it the Synod's sympathy and support in the forwarding of the interests of thorough and Christian education.

Elder Henry W. Jessup, appointed by the Moderator to defend the Synod in the last General Assembly against the appeal and complaint in the Synod's Judicial Case No. 2, session of 1896, reported that he had discharged his duty, and that the complaint and appeal before the Assembly were withdrawn. The report was accepted.

The Committee to nominate Trustees of the Synod and Trustees and Examiners of Elmira College presented its report, which was accepted, and the following persons were duly elected:

Trustees of the Synod: Rev. Henry M. MacCracken, D.D., Rev. Charles L. Thompson, D.D., William Allen Butler, Esq., Thomas G. Ritch, Esq., for the term expiring in 1900.

Trustees of Elmira College: Royal C. Clinton, J. Sloat Fassett, Solomon E. Smith, Seymour Dexter, Mrs. Howard Elmer, Louis G. Rathbun, for the term expiring in 1900.

Examiners: Rev. Samuel Dunham, Rev. J. Wilford Jacks, D.D., Prof. Philip M. Hull, for the term expiring in 1900.

The Committee on the Observance of the Lord's Day presented the following report, which was accepted, and its recommendations were adopted:

Whereas, 1. The sanctity of the Christian Sabbath, as the divinely appointed day for rest and worship, is acknowledged by the churches over which this Synod has jurisdiction; and the duties and obligations of its observance are duly regarded by those over whom it has any influence; and whereas,

2. The General Assembly, as the supreme judicatory of the church, has its Standing Committee on Sabbath observance. covering all necessary ground, and issuing to the churches of this Synod all necessary injunctions; and whereas,

3. Various associations in the State are formed for the purpose of educating popular sentiment, of influencing legislation, and of enforcing existing laws; and whereas,

4. The reports prepared and presented by your Committees must unavoidably be the mere expression of the opinions and sentiments of said Committees; therefore,

Resolved, 1. That this Synod solemnly reiterates its earnest appeal to the churches and their members to be mindful of their obligations to the Lord of the Sabbath, to be loyal to the spirit of His day, and to be obedient to the injunctions and directions of the Directory for Worship as interpreted by the various deliverances of the General Assembly.

2. That the Committee on the Observance of the Lord's day be discontinued until some more urgent occasion shall call for its re-appointment.

The Permanent Committee on Publication and Sabbath School work presented the following report, which was accepted and adopted:

The Committee recommends:

1. That the Synod call upon all the ministers, Elders and Sabbath School superintendents within its bounds, to read carefully and prayerfully the annual report of the Board of Publication and Sabbath School work presented to the last Assembly. "Reading maketh a full man"; "faith cometh by hearing." If leaders of our Churches and Sabbath Schools familiarize themselves with the facts so clearly, comprehensively and adequately presented in the Report, the people in the churches will soon know these facts. and become interested in the work.

2. That the Synod especially commend to all ministers, Sabbath School teachers, and leaders of Mission bands, the leaflets published by the Board, numbered "S. S. Missions, No. 16, 17, 18, 19," and entitled respectively "Presbyterian Sabbath School Missions— A Pioneer Agency," "The Evangelistic Value of Presbyterian Sabbath School Missions," "Important Testimony to the Value of Presbyterian Sabbath School Missions," and "Woman's Interest in Sabbath School Missions."

3. That particular attention be called to the six great lines of Presbyterial Sabbath School work set forth in the report, and very briefly but effec-

tively presented in the circular published by the Board, entitled "Call of Providence to the Synods of 1897." The facts presented should be known in all our churches and Sabbath Schools, if we are to obtain from the Christian men and women and children, who form the constituency of this great Synod, their interest, prayers and contributions.

4. That in accordance with the recommendation of the General Assembly, the churches of the Synod be urged to take up offerings for this Board. The larger proportion of the contributions now come from the Sabbath Schools. This is most commendable on the part of the schools, but all in the church should have a hand in forwarding this pioneer work, which is carried on without debt, and with splendid results, out of all proportion to the meagre aid given by the Church.

5. That in view of the very general observance of the 250th anniversary of the adoption of the Westminster Standards, the superintendents of our Sabbath Schools be urged to make especially prominent the excellence of the Shorter Catechism, and strenuously endeavor to revive an interest in the study of this concise statement of our most holy faith.

The Permanent Committee on Missions for Freedmen presented the following report, which was accepted and, after an address by Rev. William H. Weaver, D. D., the recommendations were adopted:

The year has been exceedingly unsatisfactory as regards contributions to this object in our State. The most cursory reading of the Assembly Minutes reveals the fact that an unreasonable discrimination has been made against these missions, over and above that general reduction which the times seemed to compel toward all. In view of these facts, your Committee recommends:

1. That the Synod renews its expression of approval of the general policy and management of the Board.

2. That it recommends the pastors of the Synod to encourage, in every way, the lectures and appeals which the Board purposes to make this winter in our churches, with stereopticon exhibitions of Southern scenes.

Mr. Frank L. Marshall, of the Church Music department of the Board of Publication, addressed the Synod by invitation.

It was ordered that hereafter the reports of permanent committees, and such special committees as have been appointed to report at a subsequent meeting of the Synod, be presented in printed form, with pages corresponding in size to the pages of the printed minutes, and that they be distributed among the members early in the session.

The Special Committee on an Indian Industrial School reported that the plan had failed for lack of the requisite funds, and that cir-

culars had been sent to all donors asking their wishes as to the disposition of their gifts.

The report was accepted and the Committee was discharged.

The Rev. James Gardner, D. D., Rev. T. Ralston Smith, D. D., and Elder Horace B. Silliman, LL. D., were appointed a Committee to procure, without expense to the Synod, the printing of the address delivered at the opening of the sessions by the retiring Moderator, Elder Ralph E. Prime, LL. D.

The Woman's Synodical Committee of Home Missions presented the following report, which was accepted:

The past year, notwithstanding the many difficulties in the way of advance, has been a good year in financial and spiritual results; 611 Societies, many Christian Endeavor Societies, 166 Bands, and 158 Sabbath Schools, contributing to Home Missions in our Synod. These various organizations have sent to the Woman's Board of Home Missions during the year ending March 31, 1897, $72,484. While there has been an increase in total contributions of $7,129, there has unfortunately been a decrease of some $2,343 in gifts to the freedmen. This is deeply regretted, in view of the great needs of our colored people. It is hoped that, another year, there will be an increase rather than a diminution of donations reported. Boxes valued at $38,908 have been forwarded to Home Missionaries, Schools and teachers.

The interest of the Synodical Society is felt by those who enjoy the privileges of 257 scholarships. Forty-five teachers are supported. The salary of Mr. Herndon at Tucson, Arizona, is paid by the Christian Endeavor Societies.

The Society is catholic in its views and benefactions. Sections of our land where live the Indians, mountain whites, Mormons, Mexicans, Alaskans and Freedmen are prayed for, and the interests of these various populations are considered and advanced in every way possible. The Auxiliaries of the twenty-six Presbyterial Societies are well organized and equipped for work. Each year shows growth and progress. The past year has been one of development in every direction among the workers, as well as among those for whom they have labored. Unitedly the cry goes up, that God will bless our native land, and enable this Synodical Society to be a useful and important factor in bringing it under the sway of the Gospel.

The Women's Board of Foreign Missions submitted the following report, which was accepted:

In the twenty-two Presbyteries under its care in this Synod, there are 526 Women's organizations, and 478 among the young people, which contributed, in the year ending April 1, $51,237. They support seventy missionaries, and meet the expense of hospitals, dispensaries, boarding and day schools,

itinerating, printing and translating. Several buildings have been put up, and others have been repaired and enlarged.

The Twenty-seventh Annual Meeting, in the Central Church, Rochester, was one of unusual interest. There were in attendance 155 delegates, and a large general audience. Eight missionaries took some share in the exercises. For the first time in the history of the Board, the Communion was celebrated at the close of the meeting, a service never to be forgotten by those privileged to partake of it.

With few exceptions, the churches, as given in the Minutes of the Assembly, are represented by our organizations. There are several which, with a little encouragement, would be capable of larger work. The Women's Board reminds the Synod that the statistics above given do not comprise all that it has done. The amount of money received during the year was $76,800, of which $22,191 was from legacies. The number of missionaries under its care was seventy-three.

Members of the Synod, once more we have given to you a condensed review of the year's work. You, as well as we, have heard the cry of dismay from all parts of the field, as word reached the missionaries that so much labor, over which they have prayed, to which they have given their strength, and from which they were beginning to see results, must be abandoned until Christian people realize their duty and privilege. To carry on the work this year, even in its crippled condition, needs fresh enthusiasm, and a deeper conviction that those at home must be "laborers together with God." While recognizing the many calls upon you as pastors and elders, we once more beg your co-operation. Though we are told to "begin at Jerusalem," the command rings in our ears more loudly than ever, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the Gospel." There are places where, for the present, only women can sow the seed, and the women at home can share with them the joy of the harvest. May we not depend on your assistance in reaching those who have not learned the lesson, with all that this means?

The Committee on the Minutes of the General Assembly reported the following items, and the report was accepted:

1. The answer on p. 38 to an overture from this Synod, granting it leave to change its name to "Synod of New York and New England," upon its securing the necessary and appropriate State legislation.

2. The action on pp. 41 and 85 in reference to the Appeal and Complaint made against certain action of the Synod last year.

3. The action on p. 82 in regard to Synods preparing and setting forth forms of charter, etc., for Presbyterian churches.

4. The appointment by the Assembly, pp. 84, 144, of a committee to consider the various plans of Synodical Home Missions.

5. The appointment, p. 114, of a committee to consider all questions relating to *The Church at Home and Abroad*, and the *Assembly Herald*. With reference to the recommendation of the Committee on Home Missions referred to us, it is sufficient to call attention to this action of the Assembly.

6. On page 128, Synods and Presbyteries are recommended to appoint Standing Committees on Temperance.

7. On p. 129, the last Annual Minutes of the Synod are approved without exception.

8. On p. 86 it is recommended that Synods, Presbyteries and churches provide for the observance of the 250th anniversary of the adoption of the Westminster Standards. The Committee recommends that a Committee of five be appointed, to make arrangements for such observance on the part of this Synod.

The closing recommendation was adopted, and the Committee was appointed as follows: Ministers—Thomas J. Brown, William Reed, Alfonso R. Olney; Elders—Henry W. Jessup, William H. Hollister, Jr.

It was *Resolved*, That the Moderator of each Presbytery in the Synod (within the State of New York) be requested to appoint the Presbytery's Committee provided for in the plan of Synodical Missions, such Committee to serve until the Presbytery shall otherwise direct; and that, for the present, the Chairmen of the existing Presbyterial Committees on Home Missions act as members of the Synodical Committee.

It was also ordered that the Synodical Committee appoint, for the current year, a Treasurer of the Synodical Home Mission Fund, and that it be authorized to make the necessary apportionment, and to fill vacancies.

The consideration of the report of the Permanent Committee on Synodical Aid was resumed, and its recommendation was adopted. The report is as follows:

In making our tenth annual report, we have to record, with deep sorrow, the death of the late Synodical Superintendent, Rev. James Norton Crocker, D.D. We exclaim, as did the royal David at the death of Abner, "Know ye not there is a prince and a great man fallen this day in Israel?" Born in Washington county, the son of a respected elder and a godly mother, Dr. Crocker became, while quite young, a successful teacher of the classics. Through the influence of Dr. John N. Campbell, pastor of the First Church of Albany, he gave himself to the gospel ministry. After his graduation from Princeton Seminary, in 1852, he was soon ordained, and installed over a Presbyterian church in Albany Presbytery. For the forty-five years of his ministerial life he remained in that Presbytery, serving and building up several of its churches, thus early manifesting his aptitude for the mission work in which he met with his great success. He was instrumental in guiding into the ministry some of the well-known and eminently useful clergymen of

our church. In 1880 he was elected Superintendent of Missions in the former Synod of Albany. January 1st, 1885, he entered a broader field in our own Synod, as Superintendent over a large part of the State, and in 1893 became Superintendent for the whole State, and continued in laborious service, with wonderful adaptation to all its demands, until he fell asleep in Jesus at his home in Saratoga Springs, June 20th, 1897, at the age of seventy years. Up to within less than two days of the end, Dr. Crocker had his letters read to him and dictated answers; and there was a marvelous dispatch and completeness in his work. We have testimony to his piety, suavity, fidelity and executive ability from all parts of the State. Wherever he was needed he responded cheerfully, and was a wise counsellor, a judicious peacemaker, and an able preacher. He stimulated the people to renewed effort, and opened many closed churches to congregations made happy in their new life and successful toil. He has united many ministers to neglected and discouraged parishes, awakening new zeal and cordial co-operation in labors for the kingdom of Christ. The committee has wondered where the Synod will find one to fill Dr. Crocker's place. May the Lord direct us to the man of his choice!

On hearing of the death of Dr. Crocker, the committee requested Rev. William Durant, D.D., to answer, as far as he was able, the correspondence which was accumulating in the office. This service he has cheerfully performed, and the committee thankfully acknowledges its obligations to him.

During the past year all the Presbyteries have contributed something to the Synodical Aid Fund, and many of them liberally. Two have asked nothing in return. Two others have asked for less than they gave. Grants have been made by the Board of Home Missions to 139 needy churches and mission stations, amounting to nearly $30,000. In addition, the Presbytery of Buffalo has raised and distributed $15,000. Brooklyn has a union for church extension work which contributed $1,502. Cayuga is making an effort to raise $1,200 for its own work. Long Island Presbytery has met all the wants of its feeble churches. New York has raised over $8,000. Syracuse has a volunteer fund, which accomplishes much, but has not yet reached self-support. It is recommended:

That the Synod request the salary of Dr. Crocker to be paid to Mrs. Crocker out of the Synodical Aid Fund for the remainder of the year, and that the amount due Dr. Crocker at his decease, for postage and traveling expenses, be paid to the amount of $155.24.

On the further recommendation of the Committee, the following Minute was adopted:

The Synod of New York hereby expresses to Mrs. Crocker and her family its desire to share with them the sorrow of their great bereavement, feeling that their especial suffering, in the removal of a devoted husband and father, reaches beyond them and touches us all. We lament the loss of a brother beloved, upon whom we largely depended for efficient and distinguished ser-

vice, wherever good judgment, wise counsels and loving sympathy were needed, and became productive of the best results. Our comfort is that the Father's wisdom says, "All things work together for good to them that love Him"; and that the Kingly Master still reigns amid the golden candlesticks and cares for all His churches.

Our prayer is, that while our blessed Lord has, in love and wisdom, seen it best to honor our brother with a higher position and service, He will bestow the blessing of His comforting and sustaining grace upon the bereaved household, and help us who remain to be faithful to the end; and then, through the Lord Jesus, unite us with all His honored servants in the General Assembly above, in ascribing the glory and the praise to Him who loved us, and counted us worthy to serve on earth, that we might glorify and enjoy Him forever.

The Committee appointed to nominate a Superintendent of Synodical Missions presented unanimously the name of Rev. J. Wilford Jacks, D.D., who was thereupon duly elected to the office, at a salary of $1,500 per annum and necessary expenses on the field.

The following Minute was adopted:

The Synod expresses its hearty approval of the work carried on in the Adirondack region under the supervision of Rev. Richard G. McCarthy, and calls the attention of its Churches to this work, suggesting that some of their liberality flow into this channel.

The following were appointed a Permanent Committee on Temperance: *Ministers*—James Chambers, G. Parsons Nichols, James Gardner, Henry Ward; *Elders*—Henry W. Jessup, George H. Southard, James H. Loomis.

The Committee to collate the reports on the Records of the Presbyteries presented the following recommendations, which were adopted:

1. That the Records of the Presbytery of Lyons be approved as far as written, with the following exception: On p. 167 it is recorded that a licentiate was dismissed to "any Presbytery," instead of to a particular Presbytery, as required by Chap. XI, Sec. 111, of the Book of Discipline.

2. That the Records of the Presbytery of North River be approved as far as written, with the exception of a resolution passed, p. 175, postponing the engrossing of the Minutes of the Fall Meetings until after the meeting of the Synod. This is evidently an irregularity.

3. That the Records of the Presbytery of Steuben be approved as far as written; and that, in answer to the Overture from that Presbytery, the action on its Records taken by the Synod last year [Minutes, p. 41,] be reconsidered,

and the second exception be stricken out, as based on a misapprehension of the facts of the case.

4. That the Records of the Presbytery of Syracuse be approved as far as written, with the following exceptions: 1. That the volume containing the Minutes since the last approval up to February 8, 1897, has not been presented for examination. 2. That on pp. 25, 29, 35 and 38 of the new volume it is not recorded that the sessions were closed with prayer.

5. That the Records of the Presbytery of Westchester be approved as far as printed, with the exception that, on p. 559, the report of a Committee on Session Records is given, without record of any action by the Presbytery thereon.

The Committee to Nominate Visitors to Colleges and Seminaries reported, recommending the following appointments, and the recommendation was adopted:

Auburn Seminary: *Ministers*—Joseph Gamble, Thomas A. Nelson, George Alexander, Samuel S. Mitchell, Josiah E. Kittredge, N. Beall Remick; *Elders*—William H. Doughty, Edward L. Wells, Edwin S. Walker, Rufus L. Sisson.

Hamilton College: *Ministers*—Joseph H. France, Asher B. Temple, George D. Miller, Richard D. Harlan, Cornelius S. Stowitts; *Elders*—Alfred E. Marling, William W. Smith, Silas S. Peirson, Charles P. Warren.

New York University: *Ministers*—Alfred H. Moment, William F. Whitaker, Amasa S. Freeman, Israel N. Terry, Thornton M. Niven; *Elders*—Frederick A. Booth, Robert S. Williams, Henry W. Jessup, William H. Kent.

The Committee to nominate the Woman's Synodical Committee on Home Missions presented a report, which was accepted, and the persons nominated were duly appointed. (See Appendix.)

The Rev. T. Ralston Smith, D.D., of the Presbytery of Buffalo, was re-elected Stated Clerk and Treasurer of the Synod, and the Rev. J. Wilford Jacks, D.D., of the Presbytery of Geneva, was re-elected Permanent Clerk, for the term of five years.

The Special Committee on Services at Summer Resorts was continued.

The following Minute was adopted:

Whereas, The Synod, being an incorporated body under the laws of the State of New York, is powerless to change its name to "Synod of New York and New England," and must apply to the Legislature to accomplish such change, therefore

Resolved, That the Synod, for reasons now appearing, declines to ask for such change of name, or to consent to it.

The thanks of the Synod were given to the Moderator, Vice-Moderator, the Stated and Permanent Clerks, and the Temporary Clerks, for their faithfulness and courtesy in the discharge of their duties.

The Treasurer was authorized to pay the usual salaries, and the bills for the expenses of the Synod.

The Committee on Leave of Absence reported that the following members had received permission to withdraw before the close of the sessions, and the report was accepted:

Presbytery of Albany: Ministers—John Dooly, Frederick N. Rutan; Elders—James P. McFarland, Walter B. Goold.

Binghamton: Ministers—George N. Macdonald, William J. Gregory; Elder—George J. Michelbach.

Boston: Ministers—William E. Archibald, William H. Dexter, David B. McMurdy.

Brooklyn: Ministers—Louis Wolferz, Augustus B. Prichard.

Buffalo: Ministers—Jacob Freshman, Edward M. Sharp, Alton H. Cowles; Elders—C. Perry Harris, Hervey S. Champlin.

Cayuga: Minister—Henry Schlosser; Elder—William J. Donovan.

Chemung: Ministers—Frederick L. Benedict, Murray H. Gardner; Elder—Emmett B. Russell.

Columbia: Minister—Albert B. Judson.

Genesee: Minister—John McK. Brayton.

Geneva: Ministers—Asher B. Temple, Edwin H. Dickinson, Henry A. Porter, Henry W. Maier; Elder—Peter Wyckoff.

Hudson: Ministers—Luther Littell, Charles Beattie, John W. Keller, John H. Jensen, William M. Yeomans; Elders—Nathaniel J. Kelsey, Hawley J. Russell, Augustus Denniston, Ira G. Corwin.

Long Island: Elders—Jesse D. Hawkins, Marcus E. Griffin, Samuel N. Davis.

Lyons: Minister—Vernon N. Yergin; Elder—Smith D. Wood.

Nassau: Ministers—Rockwood MacQuesten, J. Howard Hobbs, Charles O. Gray.

New York: Ministers—George Alexander, Howard Duffield, George S. Webster, A. Woodruff Halsey, John R. Davies; Elder—Henry R. Elliott.

Niagara: Minister—Alpheus P. Meeker.

North River: Minister—Julius Straus; Elders—Alfred B. Clarke, Hiram Van Steenbergh.

Otsego: Ministers—Robert I. MacBride, Edward L. Chichester.

Rochester: Ministers—Josiah E. Kittredge, Hiram H. Kellogg, Frederick N. Lindsay.

St. Lawrence: Elders—Alexander Turnbull, Horace S. Whitmarsh.

Steuben: Minister—Frank H. Bisbee; Elders—Sylvester J. Beals, Charles E. Clark.

Syracuse: Ministers—Silas E. Persons, John C. Mead, George Nicholls.

Troy: Minister—Charles B. Atwood; Elders—William H. Hollister, Jr., George W. Eddy, Franklin Field.

Utica: Minister—Frank W. West; Elder—Chester A. Ball.

Westchester: Minister—Alvah G. Fessenden; Elders—Hezekiah King, Henry Strang, James H. Thompson, Jr.

The several Standing Committees were called, and, on reporting that they had no further business to present, were discharged.

The following Minute was adopted by unanimous vote:

The Synod, at the close of its most delightful and profitable sessions in the Westminster Church, Utica, expresses its cordial thanks to the Pastor, Elders and Trustees of the Church, to the families of the congregation, to the organist and choir, to the several Ministers and Elders on the Committee of Arrangements, and to all in other congregations who have co-operated in entertaining the Synod, for their most generous, efficient, and successful arrangements for all the business and social needs of the body. Sincere thanks are extended also to the First Church for the enjoyable reception given to the Synod on Thursday evening, to the trustees of that congregation for the use of their church for the missionary meetings of the Synod, and to the organist and choir for their most acceptable services. Cordial recognition is added of the exceedingly full and satisfactory reports of the daily proceedings given by the Press of Utica, and of the courtesy of the railway companies of the Trunk Line Association in granting a reduction of fares to the members of the Synod.

The Rev. Thomas J. Brown, D.D., responded for the Committee of Arrangements, and the Moderator made an appropriate reply.

The roll was called, and the following members were found to be absent without leave:

Presbytery of Albany: Elder—William Bullock.

Binghamton: Minister—G. Parsons Nichols; Elder—Albert P. McGraw.

Brooklyn: Minister—William J. Hutchins.

Buffalo: Minister—William J. McKittrick.

Genesee: Ministers—Arthur E. Brigden, Henry R. Fancher; Elder—James H. Loomis.

Geneva: Elder—Eli A. Bronson.

Long Island: Minister—Arthur Newman.

Lyons: Elder—Frederick W. Griffith.

Nassau: Elder—William J. Colman.

New York: Ministers—James Chambers, J. Balcom Shaw, P. Butler Tompkins; Elders—John Stewart, Silas B. Brownell, James Martin, John W. Mack.

Otsego: Minister—Ernest L. Tiffany; Elder—Daniel McMullen.
Rochester: Minister—Albert Evans.
St. Lawrence: Minister—Allen Macy Dulles.
Steuben: Minister—Charles N. Frost.
Syracuse: Minister—H. Grant Person.
Troy: Elder—Mallory D. Schoonmaker.
Utica: Minister—Burnett T. Stafford; Elders—John McLean, George G. Marsh.
Westchester: Ministers—George F. Pentecost, Oliver S. Dean, James H. Rankin.

The minutes of the day's session were read and approved.

The business having been completed, the Synod adjourned to meet in the Lake Street Church, Elmira, on the third Tuesday, the eighteenth day of October, A. D. eighteen hundred and ninety-eight, at half-past seven o'clock P. M.

Concluded with praise, prayer, and the Apostolic Benediction.

J. WILFORD JACKS,
Permanent Clerk.

ATTEST:

T. RALSTON SMITH,
Stated Clerk.

Appendix.

I. REPORTS OF THE PRESBYTERIES.

I. The Presbytery of Albany consists of sixty-three ministers and fifty churches, and has under its care eight candidates.

Ministers received:

December 8, 1896, Rev. Josiah Still, from the Presbytery of Binghamton;
February 11, 1897, Rev. Arthur M. Smith, from the Presbytery of Rochester;
June 8, Rev. William W. Curry, from the Presbytery of Columbia.

Candidates received:

April 20, 1897, Gilbert Harrison Worden;
June 8, William Theophilus McLeod.

Candidate licensed:

June 8, 1897, William Henry Freeman.

Pastoral relations dissolved:

November 5, 1896, between Rev. Edwin F. Hallenbeck and the Church at Greenbush;
November 17, between Rev. Leslie R. Groves and the Sixth Church, Albany;
March 30, 1897, between Rev. William E. Marden and the Churches of Voorheesville and Bethlehem;
September 21, between Robert M. Blackburn and the Church at New Scotland, and between Rev. Arthur Dracas and the Church at Northville.

Installed:

November 5, 1896, Rev. Edwin F. Hallenbeck, over the Third Church, Albany;
December 1, Rev. John Dooly, over the Church at West Milton;
February 11, 1897, Rev. Arthur M. Smith, over the Church at Greenbush;
June 15, Rev. William M. Curry, over the Churches at Voorheesville and Bethlehem.

Ministers dismissed:

December 8, 1896, Rev. Herman S. Juistema, to the Presbytery of Detroit; March 30, 1897, Rev. William E. Marden, to the Presbytery of Philadelphia; June 8, Rev. Louis A. Pierson, to the Presbytery of Rochester; Sept. 21, Rev. Robert M. Blackburn, to the Presbytery of Monmouth.

Licentiate transferred:

July 22, 1897, William H. Freeman, to the Presbytery of Chemung.

Deceased:

June 20, 1897, at Saratoga Springs, Rev. James Norton Crocker, D.D., the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery, in the 71st year of his age.

Miscellaneous:

Sept. 21, 1897, Rev. Alfonso R. Olney, D.D., was elected Stated Clerk, to succeed Rev. James N. Crocker, D.D., deceased.

II. The Presbytery of Binghamton consists of thirty-six ministers and thirty-one churches, and has under its care one licentiate, one local evangelist and three candidates.

Ministers received:

December 9, 1896, Rev. John T. Stone, from the Presbytery of Utica; October 8, 1897, Rev. Samuel I. Davis, from the Susquehanna Association of Congregational Churches.

Candidate taken under care of Presbytery:

September 21, 1897, Leon S. Lacy.

Candidate licensed:

April 20, 1897, Edgar M. Smead.

Licentiate received:

September 21, 1897, George Douglass Young, from the Presbytery of New York.

Pastoral relation dissolved:

April 2, 1897, between Rev. A. Cameron MacKenzie, D.D. and the Church in Owego.

Ordinations:

November 2, 1896, John W. Lowden, and James D. Cameron;
October 8, 1897, George Douglass Young.

Installations:

December 9, 1896, Rev. John T. Stone, over the Church in Cortland;
October 8, 1897, Rev. George Douglass Young, over the Church in Owego.

Ministers dismissed:

April 19, 1897, Rev. Benjamin B. Knapp, to the Presbytery of Steuben;
September 20, Rev. Archibald M. Shaw, to the Presbytery of Columbia;
October 8, Rev. John W. Lowden, to the Presbytery of New York.

Church enrolled:

September 21, 1897, Immanuel, Binghamton, organized June 15, 1897.

III. The Presbytery of Boston consists of fifty-nine ministers and forty-three churches, and has under its care one licentiate.

Ministers received:

April 20, 1897, Rev. S. McNeill Keeler, from the Presbytery of Philadelphia North; Rev. Emory A. Nelson, from the Presbytery of North River, and Rev. James J. Dunlop, from the Presbytery of Long Island.

Licentiates received:

March 12, 1897, Thomas H. Mitchell, from the Presbytery of Lanark and Renfrew, Canada;
June 14, Addison G. Alexander, from the Presbytery of West Jersey.

Ordained:

March 12, 1897, Thomas H. Mitchell;
June 14, Addison G. Alexander.

Installations:

March 12, 1897, Rev. Thomas H. Mitchell, over the Church at Barré;
April 22, Rev. James J. Dunlop, over the Church at Roxbury;
April 27, Rev. Emory A. Nelson, over the Westminster Church, Manchester, Vt.;
May 5, Rev. William C. Lindsay, Ph. D., over the Church at Bedford.

Ministers dismissed:

April 20, 1897, Rev. Edward Scofield, to the Presbytery of Champlain, and Rev. Minot S. Hartwell, to the Congregational Association of Maine;
October 6, Rev. William A. Pinkerton, to the Presbytery of Corning.

Deceased:

March 1, 1897, at Wolcott, Conn., Rev. Erastus Martin Kellogg, in the 82d year of his age;
September 30, at Lowell, Mass., Rev. Robert Court, D.D., the Stated Clerk of the Presbytery, in the 68th year of his age.

Name dropped from the roll.

June 14, 1897, Rev. Albert G. Beebe.

Miscellaneous:

October 5, 1897, Rev. W. Elder Archibald, Ph. D., was elected Stated Clerk and Treasurer, to succeed Rev. Robert Court, D.D., deceased.

IV. The Presbytery of Brooklyn consists of sixty-six ministers and thirty-four churches, and has under its care seven licentiates and eleven candidates.

Ministers received:

December 7, 1896, Rev. Benjamin F. Parliman, from the Presbytery of Long Island;
April 19, 1897, Rev. Joseph G. Williamson, Jr., from the Presbytery of Lehigh; Rev. Frederick W. Fuess, from the Presbytery of Utica; Rev. Judson Swift, from the Presbytery of Syracuse; and Rev. William H. Ingersoll, from the New York and Brooklyn Association of Congregational Churches;
May 19, Rev. Emanuel Tealdo, from the Presbytery of Lehigh;
October 4, Rev. Charles R. Kingsley, from the Presbytery of Milwaukee.

Candidates taken under care of Presbytery:

April 19, 1897, William E. Williams and Charles B. Mitchell;
May 19, Walter Rockwood Ferris;
October 4, Laureli Demeritt.

Candidates licensed.

December 7, 1896, George J. Schoerk;
April 20, 1897, William H. Tower, Andrew J. Bruchlacher, William E. Williams and Charles B. Mitchell;
May 24, Walter Rockwood Ferris.

Pastoral relations dissolved:

January 9, 1897, between Rev. Morris J. Frank and the First East Williamsburgh Church;
February 1, between Rev. William A. Holliday, D.D., and the Prospect Heights Church;
May 29, between Rev. Charles Cuthbert Hall, D.D., and the First Church;
September 13, between Rev. David Junor and the Mt. Olivet Church.

Ordinations:

May 19, 1897, William H. Tower;
June 9, Walter R. Ferris;
June 17, George J. Schoerk.

Installations:

June 9, 1897, Rev. Walter R. Ferris, over the Bay Ridge Church;
June 17, Rev. George J. Schoerk, over the First East Williamsburgh Church.

Ministers dismissed:

April 19, 1897, Rev. Morris Frank, to the Presbytery of New York;
May 24, Rev. Alexander Wouters, to the Presbytery of Detroit;
September 13, Rev. David Junor, to the New York Classis of the Reformed Church in America;
October 4, Rev. James C. M. Johnston, to the Presbytery of Northumberland.

Candidate transferred:

October 4, 1897, Nathaniel McGiffin to the Presbytery of Cayuga.

Deceased:

August 27, 1897, at Lake Park, Ga., Rev. Thomas J. Evans, in the 80th year of his age.

Church enrolled:

May 29, 1897, Immanuel Church.

Miscellaneous:

June 13, 1897, the Central Church entered its new edifice.

V. The Presbytery of Buffalo consists of fifty-six ministers and forty-seven churches, and has under its care two licentiates and two candidates.

Ministers received:

January 28, 1897, Rev. Percy B. Wightman, from the Presbytery of Cayuga; Rev. Joseph H. Ralston, from the Presbytery of Allegheny; Rev. Jacob Freshman, D.D., from the Presbytery of Newark, and Rev. Frank B. Carlton, from the Presbytery of Rochester;
April 13, Rev. John B. White, from the Genesee M. E. Conference.

Candidates licensed:

April 13, 1897, John A. Black;
September 14, Charles W. Harris.

Pastoral relations dissolved:

January 28, 1897, between Rev. William S. Hubbell, D.D., and the North Church, Buffalo;
June 4, between Rev. James D. Dingwell and Walden Avenue Church and between Rev. George H. Marsh and Kenmore Church;
September 14, between Rev. Lansing Van Schoonhoven and Bethany Church.

Ordination:

April 13, 1897, John A. Black.

Installations:

March 4, 1897, Rev. Frank B. Carlton, over Bethlehem Church;
May 11, Rev. Joseph H. Ralston, over the Sherman Church;
June 4, Rev. Samuel S. Mitchell, D.D., over the First Church, Buffalo.

Ministers dismissed:

March 4, 1897, Rev. John W. Ross, to the Presbytery of Niagara;
June 24, Rev. Albert B. Robinson, to the Presbytery of Philadelphia;
September 6, Rev. John A. Black, to the Presbytery of Lyons;
September 23, Rev. John B. White, to the Presbytery of Rochester;
September 24, Rev. George H. Marsh, to the Presbytery of St. Lawrence.

Deceased:

At Panama, N. Y., June 11, 1897, Rev. Isaac R. Bradnack, in the 85th year of his age.

VI. The Presbytery of Cayuga consists of thirty-five ministers and twenty-three churches, and has under its care twelve licentiates and seven candidates.

Minister received:

April 13, 1897, Rev. J. Frederick Fitschen, Jr., from the Presbytery of Utica.

Candidates taken under care of Presbytery:

November 17, 1896, Wm. Alexander Roulston, James Havelock Black, Rhuel Hampton Merrill, Tsvetko Bagranoff, Allen Lang, James Scott Stubblefield;
January 25, 1897, John Bamford;
May 4, Joseph VanKirk Wells, from the Presbytery of New Castle.

Candidates licensed:

April 14, 1897, Wm. Wallace Ketchum, Ernest Johnson Wright, Wm. Theophilus McLeod, Wm. Alexander Roulston, James Havelock Black, Rhuel Hampton Merrill, Tsvetko Bagranoff, Allen Lang, James Scott Stubblefield, Henry George Gunn, Kosta J. Pachejieff, James M. Burchfield, Wm. Bailie McCullum.

Licentiate received:

July 6, 1897, Aaron Carroll Stuart, from the Presbytery of Steuben.

Pastoral relations dissolved:

May 4, 1897, between Rev. Charles E. Herbert and the Genoa Second and Third Churches;
October 4, between Rev. Frederick L. Hiller and the Church at Dryden.

Ordinations:

July 13, 1897, Aaron C. Stuart;
October 4, Hugh Ivey and Wm. Tatlick, 2d.

Installations:

November 6, 1896, Rev. Louis M. Sweet, over the Springport Church, Union Springs;
April 15, 1897, Rev. J. Frederick Fitschen, Jr., over the Church at Ithaca;
July 13, Rev. Aaron C. Stuart, over the Church at Owasco.

Ministers dismissed:

October 13, 1896, Rev. William Parker to the Presbytery of Boston;
November 6, Rev. Percy B. Wightman to the Presbytery of Buffalo, and Rev. Donald M. McIntosh to the Presbytery of Niobrara;
January 25, 1897, Rev. Asa S. Fiske, D.D., to the Presbytery of Washington City;
October 12, Rev. William Parker returned his letter and was dismissed to the Presbytery of Walla Walla.

Licentiates and candidates transferred:

November 13, 1896, Horatio S. Beach, licentiate, to the Presbytery of Otsego;
November 17, Fisher H. Booth, licentiate, to the Presbytery of Jersey City;
January 25, 1897, Thomas B. Gay and John F. Graham, candidates, to the Presbytery of Allegheny;
April 14, Wm. B. McCullum, licentiate, to the Presbytery of Rochester;
May 4, James H. Black, licentiate, to the Presbytery of Chippewa;
June 4, William Theophilus McLeod, licentiate, to the Presbytery of Albany;
July 12, Henry G. Gunn, licentiate, to the Presbytery of Pembina;
September 20, James R. Burchfield, licentiate, to the Presbytery of Kingston;
September 21, Wm. A. Roulston, licentiate, to the Presbytery of St. Lawrence;
October 6, Wm. W. Ketchum, licentiate, to the Presbytery of Binghamton.

VII. The Presbytery of Champlain consists of twenty-five ministers and twenty-five churches.

Ministers received:

April 13, 1897, Rev. Edward Scofield, from the Presbytery of Boston;
September 21, Rev. William B. Lusk, from the Presbytery of New Brunswick.

Candidate received and licensed:

April 13, 1897, Peter A. Walker.

Ordained:

April 14, 1897, Peter A. Walker.

Dismissed:

April 14, 1897, Rev. Richard G. McCarthy, to the Presbytery of St. Lawrence.

VIII. The Presbytery of Chemung consists of twenty-three ministers and twenty-three churches, and has under its care two licentiates.

Candidate licensed:

April 21, 1897, Tracy B. Griswold.

Licentiates received:

June 15, 1897, Frank C. Shultis, from the Presbytery of Rochester;

September 22, William Henry Freeman, from the Presbytery of Albany.

Ordained and installed:

June 15, 1897, Frank C. Shultis, over the church of Burdett.

Deceased:

March 8, 1897, at Mecklenburgh, N. Y., Rev. Alexander O. Peloubet, aged 87 years;

July 13, at Burdett, N. Y., Rev. Franklin S. Howe, aged 87 years.

IX. The Presbytery of Chile consists of fourteen ministers and seven churches, and has under its care two local Evangelists and three candidates. [Minutes of General Assembly, 1897.]

X. The Presbytery of Columbia consists of eighteen ministers and nineteen churches, and has under its care one licentiate, one local Evangelist and one candidate.

Ministers received:

April 27, 1897, Rev. Henry M. Dodd, from the Presbytery of Utica, and Rev. Charles E. Hoyt, from the Presbytery of Wellsboro;

September 22, Rev. Archibald M. Shaw, from the Presbytery of Binghamton.

Candidate taken under care of Presbytery and licensed:

September 22, 1897, John H. Alexander, from the Presbytery of New Brunswick.

Pastoral relations dissolved:

April 28, 1897, between Rev. Robert B. Perine and the Church at Centreville, and between Rev. George Le Fevre and the Church at Ancram Lead Mines.

Installation:

June 1, 1897, Rev. Henry M. Dodd, over the Church at Ashland.

Ministers dismissed:

April 27, 1897, Rev. William W. Curry, to the Presbytery of Albany;
April 28, Rev. Robert B. Perine, to the Presbytery of Hudson.

XI. The Presbytery of Eastern Persia consists of seven ministers and four churches, and has under its care two licentiates and one candidate. [Minutes of General Assembly, 1897.]

XII. The Presbytery of Genesee consists of twenty-two ministers and twenty churches, and has under its care two local evangelists, one licentiate and one candidate.

Minister received:

April 13, 1897, Rev. Arthur T. Young, from the Presbytery of Niobrara.

Candidate licensed:

September 28, 1897, Fred J. Van Hoesen.

Licentiates received:

October 22, 1896, William S. Crane, from the Presbytery of Brooklyn;
April 13, 1897, Dirk J. Dyk, from the Presbytery of Lyons.

Ordinations:

October 22, 1896, William Hay and William S. Crane.

Ministers dismissed:

April 13, 1897, Rev. William T. Edds to the Congregational Association of Southern New York, and Rev. David S. Brown to the Presbytery of Southern Dakota.

Licentiate transferred:

September 28, 1897, Fred J. Van Hoesen to the Presbytery of Buffalo.

XIII. The Presbytery of Geneva consists of twenty-six ministers and twenty-two churches, and has under its care five candidates.

Minister received:

April 20, 1897, Rev. Arthur John Waugh, from the Presbytery of Cleveland.

Candidate taken under care of Presbytery:

September 28, 1897, Samuel Gilmore Palmer.

Candidate licensed:

May 17, 1897, Donald A. McKenzie.

Installation:

May 17, 1897, Rev. Arthur J. Waugh, over the Phelps Church.

Minister dismissed:

September 29, 1897, Rev. Henry H. Lipes, to the Presbytery of Syracuse.

Licentiate transferred:

June 4, 1897, Donald A. McKenzie, to the care of the Presbytery of Duluth.

Dropped from the roll of candidates:

April 20, 1897, Clarence J. Geer.

Deceased:

September 14, 1897, at Trumansburg, N. Y., Rev. William A. Niles, D. D., aged 74 years.

XIV. The Presbytery of Hudson consists of forty-eight ministers and forty-four churches, and has under its care two licentiates.

Ministers received:

April 19, 1897, Rev. George A. Godduhn, from the Presbytery of Corisco;
June 7, Rev. Robert B. Perine, from the Presbytery of Columbia;
September 21, Rev. William Ferrie, a constituent member of the Free Church of Scotland, and for twenty-eight years preceding April last, pastor of the isolated Associate Reformed Church of Mongaup Valley.

Candidate taken under care of Presbytery:

June 7, 1897, Emmet Sloat.

Candidates licensed:

April 25, 1897, James C. Coleman, Jr.;
June 7, Emmet Sloat.

Licentiate received:

September 25, 1897, Benjamin J. Morgan, from the Presbytery of Lyons.

Ordination:

October 5, 1897, Benjamin J. Morgan.

Installations:

November 4, 1896, Rev. Alexander D. King, over the church at Hempstead;

May 12, 1897, Rev. George A. Godduhn, over the Jeffersonville German Church;
July 7, Rev. Robert B. Perine, over the Monticello church;
October 5, Rev. Benjamin J. Morgan, over the Circleville church.

Ministers dismissed:

January 25, 1897, Rev. Frederick J. Stanley, D.D., to the Presbytery of West Jersey;
March 4, Rev. Frederick T. Steele, to the Presbytery of New York;
April 19, Rev. Sylvanus R. Queen, to the Presbytery of Philadelphia.

Deceased:

January 8, 1897, at Monticello, N. Y., Rev. John P. Scott, D.D., aged 67;
September 24, at Nyack, N. Y., Rev. John A. Davis, D.D., aged 58.

Church enrolled:

June 7, 1897, on its unanimous application, the isolated Associate Reformed Church of Mongaup Valley, N. Y.

XV. The Presbytery of Long Island consists of twenty-one ministers and twenty-four churches, and has under its care one candidate.

Pastoral relations dissolved:

October 27, 1896, between Rev. James B. Freeman and the Church of Southold, to take effect January 1, 1897;
April 14, 1897, between Rev. James J. Dunlop and the Church of Greenport.

Minister dismissed:

April 14, 1897, Rev. James J. Dunlop, to the Presbytery of Boston.

Deceased:

May 6, 1897, at Longwood, L. I., Rev. Hamilton B. Holmes, aged 55 years.

XVI. The Presbytery of Lyons consists of twenty-two ministers and eighteen churches, and has under its care two candidates.

Ministers received:

April 7, 1897, Rev. Angus H. Cameron, from the Presbytery of Syracuse;
September 21, Rev. John A. Black, from the Presbytery of Buffalo.

Licentiate received and ordained:

October 12, 1897, Amos T. Harrington, from the Presbytery of Westchester.

Installations:

April 6, 1897, Rev. Vernon N. Yergin, over the Church of Galen;
April 7, Rev. Angus H. Cameron, over the Church of Palmyra.

Ministers dismissed:

November 9, 1896, Rev. Matthew G. Henry, to the Presbytery of Halifax, Nova Scotia;

April 20, 1897, Rev. Frank E. Hoyt, to the Presbytery of Otsego.

Licentiates transferred:

April 6, 1897, Dirk J. Dyk, to the Presbytery of Genesee;

April 20, Benjamin J. Morgan, to the Presbytery of Hudson.

XVII. The Presbytery of Nassau consists of twenty-five ministers and twenty-six churches, and has under its care one licentiate and three candidates.

Minister received:

October 30, 1896, Rev. Robert H. P. Miles, from the Presbytery of Jersey City.

Candidate taken under care of Presbytery:

June 8, 1897, Alfred J. Wright.

Candidates licensed:

June 8, 1897, Alfred J. Wright;

October 5, Christoph Baur.

Pastoral relations dissolved:

January 31, 1897, between Rev. Joshua J. Wolf and the Oceanside Church;

April 30, between Rev. Rockwood MacQuesten, Ph. D., and the Glen Cove Church;

June 30, between Rev. William S. C. Webster, D.D., and the Church of Islip.

Ordination:

June 8, 1897, Alfred J. Wright.

Installations:

October 30, 1896, Rev. Robert H. P. Miles, over the Ravenswood Church;

June 8, 1897, Rev. Alfred J. Wright, over the Oceanside Church.

Ministers dismissed:

April 13, 1897, Rev. Joshua J. Wolf, to the Presbytery of Westchester;

June 30, Rev. William S. C. Webster, D.D., to the Classis of Westchester.

Deceased:

July 11, 1897, at Rye, N. Y., Rev. Judson H. Hopkins, aged 67 years.

XVIII. The Presbytery of New York consists of one hundred and seventy-one ministers and fifty-four churches, and has under its care seven licentiates and nine candidates.

Ministers received:

November 9, 1896, Rev. Jacob Norris, from the Presbytery of Boulder;
January 11, 1897, Rev. James M. Farr, Jr., and Rev. Charles Cotton Kimball, D.D., from the Presbytery of Philadelphia; Rev. Frederick E. Shearer, D.D., from the Presbytery of Chicago; and Rev. H. W. Parker, from the Grinnell Association of Congregational Churches in Iowa;
April 12, Rev. Frederick T. Steele, from the Presbytery of Hudson;
April 18, Rev. Richard R. Wightman, from the Presbytery of Lansing;
May 10, Rev. Robert Gordon Mackay, from the Presbytery of Boston; Rev. Maitland Alexander, from the Presbytery of Monmouth; and Rev. E. Huntting Rudd, from the Presbytery of Niagara;
July 1, Rev. Matthew Mueller, from the South Classis of Bergen of the Reformed Church;
October 4, Rev. Samuel McComb, from the Presbytery of Belfast, Ireland.

Candidates taken under care of the Presbytery:

December 14, 1896, James Alexander McCague;
January 11, 1897, Robert J. Lockhart;
April 12, James Oscar Boyd;
June 14, S. Carleton Haight;
October 4, George Irving Long.

Licensed:

June 14, 1897, Edward J. Baird.

Dissolution of Pastoral Relations:

November 9, 1896, between Rev. James S. Ramsay, D.D., and the Harlem Church;
May 10, 1897, between Rev. Frederick E. Voegelin and the Zion Church.

Installations:

April 18, 1897, Rev. Richard R. Wightman, over Christ Church;
May 18, Rev. Maitland Alexander, D.D., over the Harlem Church;
July 1, Rev. Matthew Mueller, over Zion Church;
October 14, Rev. Samuel McComb, over Rutgers Riverside Church.

Ministers dismissed:

Nov. 9, 1896, Rev. Andrew Armstrong, Jr., to the Middlesex County Association of Connecticut;
December 14, Rev. Warren H. Wilson, to the Presbytery of Westchester;
January 11, 1897, Rev. Edward J. Hamilton, D.D., LL.D., to the Presbytery of Puget Sound;
February 8, Rev. James S. Ramsay, D.D., to the Presbytery of Allegheny;

March 8, Rev. William A. Rice, D.D., to the Congregational Conference of Northern New Jersey;
May 10, Rev. Frederick E. Voegelin, to the Presbytery of Morris and Orange;
June 14, Rev. Charles H. Tyndall, to the Westchester Classis, Reformed Church;
July 12, Rev. J. C. Hume, to the South Classis, Reformed Church.

Licentiates transferred:

April 12, 1897, Vaclav Bazata, to the Presbytery of Los Angeles;
June 14, Edward J. Baird, to the Presbytery of Baltimore;
September 2, George Douglas Young, to the Presbytery of Binghamton.

Deceased:

July 2, 1895, at Perth Amboy, N. J., Rev. William H. Beach, aged 85;
May 2, 1897, at Perth Amboy, Rev. Albert G. Ruliffson, aged 65.

XIX. The Presbytery of Niagara consists of twenty-one ministers and twenty-one churches, and has under its care two candidates.

Ministers received:

February 2, 1897, Rev. Nelson B. Chester, from the Presbytery of Buffalo;
April 20, Rev. John W. Ross, from the Presbytery of Buffalo;
June 22, Rev. William H. Cornett, from the Presbytery of Newark.

Pastoral relations dissolved:

October 9, 1896, between Rev. Dean R. Leland and the Second Church, Lockport;
February 2, 1897, between Rev. Edward Huntting Rudd and the church of Albion;
February 25, between Rev. Henry K. Sanborne and the North Church of North Tonawanda;
May 25, between Rev. Erastus W. Twichell and the church at Middleport;
August 30, between Rev. Dorland N. Morden and Calvary Church, Lockport.

Ordination:

October 9, 1896, Dorland N. Morden.

Installations:

October 9, 1896, Rev. Dorland N. Morden, over Calvary Church, Lockport;
October 15, Rev. Alpheus P. Meeker, M. D., Ph. D., over the church at Wright's Corners;

February 25, 1897, Rev. Nelson B. Chester, over the church at Youngstown;
June 22, Rev. Erastus W. Twichell, over the Second Church, Lockport;
July 1, Rev. William H. Cornett, over the church at Albion.

Ministers dismissed:

February 25, 1897, Rev. Henry K. Sanborne, to the Presbytery of Alton;
April 19, Rev. Edward H. Rudd, to the Presbytery of New York;
August 30, Rev. Dorland N. Morden, to the Presbytery of Rochester.

Miscellaneous:

February 25, 1897, Rev. Horace T. Chadsey was elected Stated Clerk and Treasurer, to succeed Rev. Henry K. Sanborne, dismissed to another Presbytery.

XX. The Presbytery of North Laos consists of twenty-four ministers and fifteen churches, and has under its care three licentiates. [Minutes of General Assembly, 1897.]

XXI. The Presbytery of North River consists of forty-six ministers and thirty-one churches, and has under its care one licentiate and three candidates.

Ministers received:

February 8, 1897, Rev. Irving Maxwell, from the Presbytery of Newton;
April 19, Rev. Charles W. E. Chapin, from the Presbytery of Utica;
October 5. Rev. John S. Ellsworth from the Susquehanna Association of Congregational Ministers.

Candidate licensed:

April 20, 1897, Charles B. Tollman.

Pastoral relation dissolved:

April 20, 1897, between Rev. Julius Straus and the Westminster church.

Ordination:

October 28, 1896, William H. Sallmon.

Installations:

February 24, 1897, Rev. Irving Maxwell, over the Bethlehem church;
May 12, Rev. James A. MacGowan, over the church at Pine Plains.

Minister dismissed:

April 19, 1897, Rev. Emory A. Nelson, to the Presbytery of Boston.

Deceased:

November 26, 1896, at Pine Plains, N. Y., Rev. William N. Sayre, aged 88 years.

Church enrolled:

April 20, 1897, Wassaic.

XXII. The Presbytery of Otsego consists of twenty-six ministers and twenty-seven churches, and has under its care one licentiate and five candidates.

Ministers received:

April 28, 1897, Rev. Frank E. Hoyt from the Presbytery of Lyons; Rev. D. G. Lawson from the Franklin, N. Y., Association of Baptist Ministers; Rev. James H. Turnbull from the Presbytery of Boston.

Candidate taken under care of Presbytery:

April 28, 1897, Frank C. Cowan.

Candidate licensed:

May 11, 1897, Peter McKenzie.

Licentiate received:

January 19, 1897, Horatio S. Beach from the Presbytery of Cayuga.

Pastoral relation dissolved:

September 15, 1897, between Rev. Ernest L. Tiffany, M. D., and the church of East Guilford.

Ordination:

January 19, 1897, Horatio S. Beach.

Installations:

May 11, 1897, Rev. James H. Trumbull over the church at Hamden;
May 18, Rev. Frank E. Hoyt over the church of Colchester at Downsville;
September 28, Rev. D. G. Lawson over the church at Margaretville.

Minister dismissed:

April 28, 1897, Rev. Charles C. Meek to the Presbytery of Nebraska City.

Deceased:

December 31, 1896, at Walton, N. Y., Rev. John Van C. Nellis, Ph. D., aged 63 years.

XXIII. The Presbytery of Rochester consists of sixty-four ministers and forty-seven churches, and has under its care nine candidates.

Ministers received:

April 13, 1897, Rev. Charles Hubbard, from the Hancock Association;
April 24, Rev. Tillman S. Rush, D. D., from the Presbytery of New Castle;

May 8, Rev. John H. Elliott, from the Chicago Association;
September 21, Rev. Wm. L. Page, from the Presbytery of Lyons; and Rev. Louis A. Pierson, from the Presbytery of Albany;
September 30, Rev. John B. White, from the Presbytery of Buffalo.

Candidates taken under care of Presbytery:

April 13, 1897, William D. Robinson and George I. Searles.

Candidate received:

September 21, 1897, J. B. Darling, from Red River Presbytery.

Candidate licensed:

April 13, 1897, Frank C. Shultis.

Licentiate received:

April 28, 1897, William B. McCallum, from the Presbytery of Cayuga.

Pastoral relations dissolved:

November 16, 1896, between Rev. Frank B. Carlton and the Church of Livonia;
January 11, 1897, between Rev. Arthur M. Smith and the Church of Pittsford;
April 13, between Rev. Thomas E. Sherman and Grace Church of Rochester;
September 21, between Rev. Horace P. V. Bogue, D. D., and Avon Central Church; and between Rev. Charles A. Evans, and Calvary Church, Rochester.

Ordination:

October 14, 1897, William B. McCallum.

Installations:

January 29, 1897, Rev. Albert Evans, over Westminster Church, Rochester;
October 8, Rev. Tillman S. Rush, D. D., over the Church of Livonia.

Ministers dismissed:

November 16, 1896, Rev. Frank B. Carlton to the Presbytery of Buffalo;
January 11, 1897, Rev. Arthur M. Smith to the Presbytery of Albany;
April 13, Rev. Boon Boon Itt to the Presbytery of Siam;
September 21, Rev. Charles A. Evans to the Presbytery of Jersey City.

Licentiate transferred:

April 13, 1897, Frank C. Shultis, to the Presbytery of Chemung.

Deceased:

January 2, 1897, at Warsaw, N. Y., Rev. John Reid, in the 77th year of his age;

March 13, at Rochester, N. Y., Rev. Henry Wickes, in the 77th year of his age;
May 13, at Toronto, Canada, Rev. James A. R. Hay, in the 65th year of his age;
May 15, at Rochester, N. Y., Rev. Herbert W. Morris, D. D., in the 79th year of his age;
August 12, at Rochester, Rev. George Patton, D. D., in the 69th year of his age.

XXIV. The Presbytery of St. Lawrence consists of thirty-five ministers and thirty-four churches, and has under its care four licentiates and seven candidates.

Ministers received:

September 30, 1896, Rev. William H. Niles, from the Presbytery of Nebraska City;
December 3, Rev. Allan M. McIntosh, from the Presbytery of Cayuga;
May 10, 1897, Rev. Richard G. McCarthy, from the Presbytery of Champlain;
September 28, Rev. George H. Marsh, from the Presbytery of Genesee.

Candidates taken under care of Presbytery:

October 13, 1896, George Edward Jackson, from the Presbytery of Cayuga;
June 1, 1897, C. J. Sargent;
July 30, I. C. Van Doren;
September 29, William Alex. Roulston.

Candidates licensed:

September 29, 1897, F. A. Ingraham and Ernest C. Amery.

Pastoral relation dissolved:

July 2. 1897, between Rev. Alfred Logan and the Second Oswegatchie Church.

Ordination:

October 13, 1896, George Edward Jackson.

Installations:

October 29, 1896, Rev. W. Courtland Robinson, over the Church at Potsdam;
November 10, Rev. J. Rosser Jones, over the church at Adams;
November 19, Rev. George O. Feltus, over Hope Church, Watertown;
December 3, Rev. Allan M. McIntosh, over the church at Oxbow.

Ministers dismissed:

November 19, 1896, Rev. De Witt L. Pelton, to the Presbytery of Bloomington;

April 12, 1897, Rev. George O. Phelps, to the Presbytery of Utica;
July 2, Rev. Alfred Logan, to the Presbytery of Montreal, Canada.

Churches enrolled:

November 19, 1896, Hope, at Watertown;
September 29, 1897, Stark, at Stark, and Harewood, at Cranberry Lake.

XXV. The Presbytery of Siam consists of eleven ministers and nine churches. [Minutes of General Assembly, 1897.]

XXVI. The Presbytery of Steuben consists of thirty ministers and twenty-six churches, and has under its care one licentiate and five candidates.

Minister received:

April 21, 1897, Rev. Benjamin B. Knapp, from the Presbytery of Binghamton.

Candidates licensed:

April 21, 1897, Aaron C. Stuart and Jay Forbes Robinson.

Pastoral relation dissolved:

April 21, 1897, between Rev. Edwin C. Hull and the church at Arkport.

Ordination:

April 21, 1897, Jay Forbes Robinson.

Minister dismissed:

April 21, 1897, Rev. James R. Robinson, to the Presbytery of Wellsborough.

Licentiate transferred:

June 16, 1897, Aaron C. Stuart, to the Presbytery of Cayuga.

Church dissolved:

September 22, 1897, Rushford.

XXVII. The Presbytery of Syracuse consists of forty-seven ministers and forty-four churches, and has under its care four licentiates and five candidates.

Ministers received:

December 7, 1896, Rev. John Benjamin Bell, from the Central New York M. E. Conference;
May 3, 1897, Rev. Henry H. Lipes, from the Presbytery of Geneva;
June 24, Rev. Alexander K. McNaughton, from the Presbytery of St. Lawrence.

Candidates taken under care of Presbytery:

October 9, 1896, Joseph Brooks Ferguson;
April 13, 1897, William H. Mason and Lorenzo R. Foster;
June 7, John G. Truair, G. Wales King and Donald McCall;
September 21, Robert Benton Stevens;
October 5, William James Lonsdale.

Candidates licensed:

December 7, 1896, Robert B. Adams;
April 13, 1897, William H. Mason, Edward C. Petrie, George E. Stone and Lorenzo R. Foster;
September 21, Robert Benton Stevens;
October 5, Donald McCall.

Licentiates received:

June 7, 1897, James L. Jewell;
September 20, Milton K. Merwin.

Pastoral relations dissolved:

December 7, 1896, between Rev. John C. Ball and the Pompey Church;
March 22, 1897, between Rev. Angus H. Cameron and the Marcellus Church.

Ordinations:

October 27, 1896, Hugh W. Jones;
June 15, 1897, James L. Jewell;
October 5, Milton K. Merwin.

Installations:

October 27, 1896, Rev. Hugh W. Jones, over the Constantia Church;
May 11, 1897, Rev. Henry H. Lipes, over the Churches of Parish and Hastings;
June 15, Rev. James L. Jewell, over the Jamesville Church;
June 24, Rev. Alexander K. McNaughton, over the Marcellus Church;
October 5, Rev. Milton K. Merwin, over the Pompey Church.

Ministers dismissed:

December 7, 1896, Rev. John C. Ball, to the Presbytery of Utica;
March 22, 1897. Rev. Angus H. Cameron, to the Presbytery of Lyons;
April 12, Rev. Duncan A. McPhie, to the Presbytery of Boston, and Rev. Judson Swift, to the Presbytery of Brooklyn.

Licentiates transferred:

April 13, 1897, Lorenzo R. Foster, to the Presbytery of Lackawanna;
September 20, Edward C. Petrie, to the Presbytery of Utica.

XXVIII. The Presbytery of Troy consists of forty-eight ministers and forty-one churches, and has under its care two local evangelists and five candidates for the ministry.

Minister received:

April 20, 1897, Rev. James Boddy, from the Presbytery of Elizabeth.

Candidates taken under care of Presbytery:

April 19, 1897, John Forsyth Crawford and William D. Mack.

Licensed as a Local Evangelist:

April 19, 1897, William D. Mack.

Pastoral relation dissolved:

October 11, 1897, between Rev. Herbert C. Hinds and the Ninth Church of Troy.

Ordination:

April 20, 1897, Francis H. Pierce, as an evangelist.

Installation:

May 13, 1897, Rev. James Boddy, over the Liberty Street Church, Troy.

Minister dismissed:

September 28, 1897, Rev. David F. Williams, to the Reformed Classis of Hudson.

Honorably retired:

April 19, 1897, Rev. Robert A. Hill.

XXIX. The Presbytery of Utica consists of fifty-six ministers and forty-six churches, and has under its care three licentiates and thirteen candidates.

Ministers received:

November 2, 1896, Rev. Walter Mitchell, from the Oneida, Chenango and Delaware Association;

December 16, Rev. Esta E. Grosh, from the Presbytery of Champlain, and Rev. John C. Ball, from the Presbytery of Syracuse;

January 20, 1897, Rev. Robert C. Hallock, Ph.D., from the Congregational Council of Brooklyn;

April 13, Rev. George B. Lamb, from the Presbytery of Idaho, Rev. George O. Phelps, from the Presbytery of St. Lawrence, and Rev. Robert G. Jones, from the Presbytery of Lackawanna;

June 7, Rev. Burnett T. Stafford, from the Oneida, Chenango and Delaware Association.

Candidates licensed:

April 14, 1897, Carl H. Dudley, Anthony N. Petersen, Sherman W. Haven, William K. Merwin;
June 7, Selden L. Haynes.

Licentiate received:

September 27, 1897, Edward C. Petrie, from the Presbytery of Syracuse.

Pastoral relations dissolved:

February 10, 1897, between Rev. J. Frederick Fitschen, Jr., and the Church at Waterville.

Ordinations:

November 4, 1897, Frederick W. Fuess;
September 27, Edward C. Petrie.

Installations:

November 18, 1896, Rev. Walter Mitchell, over the Highland Church, Utica;
January 12, 1897, Rev. John C. Ball, over the Olivet Church, Utica;
January 20, Rev. Robert C. Hallock, Ph. D., over the Church in Clinton;
January 27, Rev. Frederick Campbell, over the Church at Lowville.

Ministers dismissed:

November 2, 1896, Rev. Starr Cadwallader, to the Presbytery of Cleveland;
December 16, Rev. Charles W. E. Chapin, to the Presbytery of North River;
February 10, 1897, Rev. J. Frederick Fitschen, Jr., to the Presbytery of Cayuga;
April 13, Rev. Frederick W. Fuess, to the Presbytery of Brooklyn.

Licentiates transferred:

June 7, 1897, Carl H. Dudley, to the Presbytery of Wellsborough, and Milton K. Merwin, to the Presbytery of Syracuse;
April 13, 1897, the name of Prof. Henry A. Frink, Ph.D., was dropped from the roll of licentiates.

Church enrolled:

September 28, 1897, the Church at Old Forge, organized June 29.

XXX. The Presbytery of Westchester consists of sixty-seven ministers and thirty-eight churches, and has under its care thirteen licentiates and four candidates.

Ministers received:

January 19, 1897, Rev. Warren H. Wilson, from the Presbytery of New York; Rev. Joshua J. Wolf, from the Presbytery of Nassau, and Rev.

Christopher R. Brown, from the Quarterly Conference of the A. M. E. Zion Church, Newark, N. J.;

April 20, Rev. George F. Pentecost, D.D., from the Presbytery of London, North;

October 5, Rev. Henry W. Herrman, from the Presbytery of Monmouth.

Candidates taken under the care of Presbytery:

January 19, 1897, Edwin Platt Essick;

April 20, Amos T. Harrington and Robert L. Jackson;

Licensed:

April 20, 1897, Amos T. Harrington, Robert L. Jackson and Edwin Platt Essick;

October 6, J. Robert Beale, Nathan F. Van Harson, Frank R. Shepard, Charles W. Blessing and Albert B. Scofield.

Pastoral relations dissolved:

January 19, 1897, between Rev. Henry R. White, and the Pleasantville Church; and between Rev. John H. Trussell and the South East Centre Church;

October 5, between Rev. Theodore L. Van Norden and the South Salem Church.

Ordination:

September 1, 1897, William H. Johnson, as an Evangelist.

Installations:

February 10, 1897, Rev. Joshua J. Wolf, over the Mahopac Falls Church;

April 20, Rev. George F. Pentecost, D.D., over the First Church, Yonkers.

Licentiate transferred:

October 5, 1897, Amos T. Harrington to the Presbytery of Lyons.

Deceased:

May 25, 1897, at New Rochelle, N. Y., Rev. Charles E. Lindsley, D.D., aged 79 years.

XXXI. The Presbytery of Western Persia consists of two ministers, with seven others on a supplementary roll. There are thirty-seven native ministers, and forty-nine licentiates and evangelists. [Minutes of General Assembly, 1897.]

SUMMARY.

Ministers	1,214	Licentiates	77
Churches	893	Candidates	115

II. ELMIRA COLLEGE.

1. Board of Trustees.

Term Expiring in 1898.

Francis Hall,
William R. Rathbun,
Rev. William T. Henry, D. D.,
Rev. George H. McKnight, D. D.,
John S. Bussing,
Mrs. Helen B. Turner, A. B.

Term Expiring in 1899.

Rev. Augustus W. Cowles, D. D.,
Rev. Isaac Jennings, D. D.,
Rev. A. Cameron MacKenzie, D. D.,
Mallory D. Schoonmaker,
H. Austin Clark,
Hubert C. Mandeville,
Mrs. Helen M. McWilliams.

Term Expiring in 1900.

J. Sloat Fassett,
Seymour Dexter,
Mrs. Howard Elmer,
Louis G. Rathbun,
Royal C. Clinton,
Solomon E. Smith.

2. Board of Examiners.

Term Expiring in 1898.—Rev. Alfred J. Hutton, D. D., Rev. Allen F. De Camp, Rev. Samuel W. Pratt.

Term Expiring in 1899.—Rev. James Gardner, D. D., Rev. Peter R. Ross, Prof. Ezra J. Peck.

Term Expiring in 1900.—Rev. Samuel Dunham, Rev. J. Wilford Jacks, D. D., Prof. Philip M. Hull.

III. THE WOMAN'S COMMITTEE ON HOME MISSIONS.

Presbytery of Albany—Mrs. Isaac V. W. Grant, Mrs. Willard Heacock, Mrs. Lucy C. Lester, Mrs. William J. Milne, Mrs. James Hyde Pratt, Mrs. Andrew V. V. Raymond, Mrs. Stephen Sanford, Mrs. William N. Strong.

Binghamton—Mrs. Junius J. Cowles, Mrs. Charles Gale, Mrs. Josiah S. Leverett, Mrs. G. Parsons Nichols, Miss Editha Stephens.

Boston—Mrs. S. F. Hershey, Mrs. Kenneth McKay, Mrs. Eben M. McPherson, Mrs. John P. Newell, Mrs. Robert W. Peach, Mrs. F. S. Le Bosquet.

Brooklyn—Mrs. James Cruikshank, Mrs. Delos E. Finks, Mrs. Lewis R. Foote, Mrs. William A. M. Grier, Mrs. James M. Ham, Mrs. Darwin R. James, Miss Ella McKee, Mrs. David M. Miller, Mrs. Grace N. Thatcher.

Buffalo—Mrs. John C. Bryant, Mrs. Fred. R. Eaton, Mrs. Alfred Haines, Mrs. J. F. Miner, Mrs. William H. Walker, Mrs. William F. Wheeler.

Cayuga—Mrs. Arthur S. Hoyt, Mrs. Ezra A. Huntington, Mrs. James Seymour, Mrs. Lydia B. Welch, Mrs. Henry G. Wise.

Champlain– Miss Williamine Childs, Mrs. Charles S. Judd, Mrs. Charles L. Knapp, Mrs. Laura M. Nye, Miss Mary E. Whiteside.

Chemung—Mrs. H. B. Jackson, Mrs. William Pellett, Mrs. Alexander O. Peloubet, Mrs. Stephen Rose.

Columbia—Mrs. Truman Johnson, Mrs. George C. Yeisley, Mrs. Rufus King.

Genesee—Miss Fanny J. Buxton, Mrs. Augustus Frank, Mrs. Gardner Fuller, Mrs. Butler Ward.

Geneva—Mrs. Edwin H. Dickinson, Mrs. Nahum Grimes, Mrs. Anna Herendeen, Mrs. Thompson C. Maxwell, Mrs. Benjamin F. Prichard.

Hudson—Mrs. Frances V. Boak, Mrs. David F. Bonner, Mrs. Mary S. Marsh, Mrs. Thomas Nichols, Mrs. Alexander Thompson, Mrs. Mary Wood.

Long Island—Miss Sara J. Adams, Miss Mary H. Howell, Mrs. William H. Littell, Mrs. Epher Whitaker.

Lyons—Mrs. A. Parke Burgess, Mrs. Horace Eaton, Mrs. Phebe A. Vary, Mrs. S. S. Pierson.

Nassau—Miss Florence N. McCormick, Mrs. Ellen L. Mowbray, Mrs. Peter D. Oakey, Mrs. Alexander G. Russell.

New York—Mrs. Oscar E. Boyd, Mrs. Silas B. Brownell, Mrs. Edward N. Crosby, Mrs. William F. Lee, Miss S. F. Lincoln, Mrs. John C. Martin, Mrs. John Sinclair, Mrs. Kiliaen Van Rensselaer, Mrs. W. H. Wickham.

Niagara—Mrs. Daniel Clark, Mrs. Joshua S. Helmer, Mrs. Claudius L. Hoag, Mrs. Robert Norton.

North River—Miss Fannie Beakes, Mrs. Myra V. W. Brinkerhoff, Mrs. Leroy C. Cooley, Miss Anna S. Ludlum, Miss Mary F. Mackie.

Otsego—Miss Mary L. Abell, Miss Sarah Crandall, Mrs. Elihu P. Phinney, Mrs. Leonard F. Richards.

Rochester—Mrs. Helen Bristol, Mrs. Louis Chapin, Mrs. Thomas Chester, Mrs. Julia M. Davis, Mrs. Josiah E. Kittredge, Miss Frances E. Lauderdale, Mrs. Helen S. Sylvester, Mrs. Carrie E. West.

St. Lawrence—Mrs. Charles Anthony, Mrs. D. C. Griffith, Mrs. L. Merrill Miller, Mrs. Alonzo A. Smith.

Steuben—Mrs. Joel D. Gillett, Mrs. George W. Nichols, Mrs. Stanley C. Swift, Mrs. Russell M. Tuttle, Mrs. Francis A. Williams.

Syracuse—Mrs. James O. Bennett, Mrs. Nancy E. Dow, Mrs. DeWitt Gardner, Mrs. I. B. Poucher, Mrs. William M. Smith, Mrs. Orson L. White, Mrs. Irving G. Vann.

Troy—Mrs. William V. Baker, Mrs. Norman Cole, Mrs. B F. McNitt, Miss Lucy H. Sherman, Mrs. Robert B. Stiles, Mrs. R. Halstead Ward.

Utica—Miss Helen C. Blue, Mrs. Anna L. Greenman, Mrs. Jonathan B. Morse, Mrs. M. Woolsey Stryker, Mrs. William R. Terrett, Mrs. Charles S. Richardson.

Westchester—Mrs. Thornton M. Niven, Mrs. Helen C. Parsons, Mrs. J. F. Pingry, Mrs. Daniel E. Provost, Mrs. John H. Randall, Miss Olivia B. Walsh, Miss Cornelia B. Wheeler.

IV. OFFICERS OF THE PRESBYTERIES.

Changes in Names and Addresses.

ALBANY: Rev. Alfonso R. Olney, D. D., *Stated Clerk*, West Troy, N. Y.

BOSTON: Rev. W. Elder Archibald, Ph. D., *Stated Clerk and Treasurer*, 77 Prospect Street, Brookline, Mass.

CHILE: Rev. Francisco Jorquera, *Stated Clerk*, Santiago.

NIAGARA: Rev. Horace T. Chadsey, *Stated Clerk and Treasurer*, Mapleton Station, N. Y.

SIAM: Rev. Frank L. Snyder, *Stated Clerk*, Bangkok.

V. TRUSTEES OF THE SYNOD.

President: William Allen Butler, Esq., New York.

Secretary: Rev. T. Ralston Smith, D. D., New York.

Term Expiring in 1898: Rev. George Alexander, D. D., Rev. Charles Cuthbert Hall, D. D., James Yereance, Charles Henderson.

Term Expiring in 1899: Rev. Charles S. Robinson, D. D., Rev. Robert F. Sample, D. D., William A. Wheelock, John J. McCook.

Term Expiring in 1900: Rev. Henry M. MacCracken, D. D., Rev. Charles L. Thompson, D. D., William Allen Butler, Thomas G. Ritch.

Ex-officio: Rev. Joseph Gamble, D. D., Rev. T. Ralston Smith, D. D., Rev. J. Wilford Jacks, D. D.

VI. SUCCESSION OF MODERATORS OF THE SYNOD.

	Name.	Presbytery.	Place.
1882.	HENRY A. NELSON, D. D., *Convener*	Geneva	Utica
"	HOWARD CROSBY, D. D.	New York	Utica
1883.	JAMES MCLEOD, D. D.	Buffalo	New York
1884.	JOHN MCC. HOLMES, D. D.	Albany	Buffalo
1885.	L. MERRILL MILLER, D.D.	St. Lawrence	Troy
1886.	JOSEPH E. NASSAU, D. D.	Genesee	Elmira
1887.	CHARLES C. WALLACE, D. D.	Boston	Auburn
1888.	T. RALSTON SMITH, D. D.	Buffalo	Syracuse
1889.	SAMUEL JESSUP, D. D.	Utica	Poughkeepsie
1890.	ANDREW V. V. RAYMOND, D. D.	Albany	Lockport
1891.	ASA S. FISKE, D. D.	Cayuga	Watertown
1892.	LEVI PARSONS, D. D.	Rochester	Albany
1893.	JAMES GARDNER, D. D.	Albany	Rochester
1894.	GEORGE C. YEISLEY, D. D.	Columbia	New York
1895.	HOWARD DUFFIELD, D. D.	New York	Binghamton
1896.	RALPH E. PRIME, LL. D., (Elder).	Westchester	Brooklyn
1897.	JOSEPH GAMBLE, D. D.	Champlain	Utica

VII. REPORT OF THE TREASURER OF THE SYNOD.

The Synod of New York, in account with T. Ralston Smith, Treasurer, for the year ending October 19, 1897.

Dr.		*Cr.*	
To		By	
Salaries of Temporary Clerks, 1896	$ 40.00	Balance from old account.	$1,152.98
Printing Minutes of 1896	270.00	Receipts from Presbyteries	1,047.52
Printing Docket, etc	8.10		
Committee on Sys. Beneficence	20.00		
Elder R. E. Prime's Exp. to Assembly	13.92		
Rent of Office	168.75		
Postage, Mailing Minutes, Stationery and Incidental Exp	127.20		
Salary of Stated Clerk to Oct. 1	400.00		
Salary of Permanent Clerk to Oct. 1	150.00		
Balance to new account	1,002.53		
	$2,200.50		$2,200.50

VIII. EXTRACTS FROM THE STANDING RULES.

I.

The Annual Meeting of the Synod shall begin on the third Tuesday of October, at half-past seven o'clock P. M.

III.

Each Presbytery shall, at its stated meeting next preceding the meeting of the Synod, and if possible not later than two weeks before such meeting, elect the number of delegates to which it is entitled, together with an equal number of alternates, as prescribed by the organic rule under which the Synod is constituted, namely:

"The Synod of New York shall be composed of equal delegations of ministers and ruling elders from each Presbytery in the following proportion: each Presbytery, the number of whose ministers and churches taken together is not more than 14, shall send one minister and one elder; each Presbytery

containing more than 14 and not more than 28 ministers and churches taken together, shall send two ministers and two elders; and so in like proportion for every additional number of 14 ministers and churches taken together, or for the fraction thereof ; *provided*, that no Presbytery shall be entitled to send more than ten ministers and ten elders."

IV.

The Stated Clerk of each Presbytery, immediately after the election, shall send to the Stated Clerk of the Synod a certified list of the delegates and alternate delegates chosen by the Presbytery to represent it at the Synod; and from these lists shall be made up the official roll.

At the calling of the roll at the opening session, the names of the principals who have thus been reported, or of alternates duly substituted, shall be included; but when alternate delegates appear in place of their principals, such delegates shall report in person to the Stated Clerk of the Synod, before their names shall be substituted for those of their principals.

Duplicate lists of delegates and alternates shall be sent promptly by the Stated Clerks of the Presbyteries to the Chairman of the Committee of Arrangements.

XIV.

To provide for the necessary expenses of the Synod, the several Presbyteries shall furnish, annually, amounts proportioned respectively to the number of their communicants, according to a rate *per capita* determined at the previous meeting of the Synod. And if no action has been taken, the rate shall be six mills for each communicant. This sum shall be due and payable to the Treasurer on the first of October, when the Synod's fiscal year shall terminate.

XVII.

The Minutes of the Synod shall be printed, under the direction of the Stated Clerk, as soon as practicable after the adjournment; and a copy shall be sent to every minister, to every elder whose name is on the roll of the Synod, and to the Session of each vacant church, within the bounds, severally, of those Presbyteries whose apportionments for Synodical expenses have been paid.

IX. PERMANENT COMMITTEES.

I. Synodical Missions: Elder Horace B. Silliman, *Chairman*, Cohoes; Rev. Richard D. Harlan, *Secretary*, Rochester; Elder Albert P. Stevens, *Treasurer*, Box 115, Albany.

II. Systematic Beneficence: *Ministers*—Charles A. Richmond, William S. Hubbell, George C. Yeisley, Samuel V. V. Holmes; *Elders*—Francis A. Board, John H. Osborne.

III. Home Missions: *Ministers*—Allen Macy Dulles, Charles H. Baldwin, William F. Whitaker, A. Russell Stevenson; *Elders*—Edward N. Dauchy, Louis W. Pratt, Orrin Day.

IV. Foreign Missions: *Ministers*—J. Balcom Shaw, J. Ritchie Smith, Newell Woolsey Wells, John E. Adams, George S. Webster, Henry T. McEwen; *Elders*—John F. Winslow, A. Noel Blakeman, Henry M. Lester, James Yereance, Neilson Olcott, John J. Tower.

V. Education: *Ministers*—Gerard B. F. Hallock, George B. Spalding, Willis J. Beecher, J. Lovejoy Robertson; *Elders*—John E. Meyer, Henry Hooker, James W. Eager.

VI. Publication and Sabbath School Work: *Ministers*—A. Woodruff Halsey, John T. Wilds, John E. Adams, Daniel H. Overton; *Elders*—William R. Worrall, Russell W. McKee, William McCarroll.

VII. Church Erection: *Ministers*—Martin D. Kneeland, Warren R. Cochrane, Charles S. Dewing, James M. Craig; *Elders*—John Gilchrist, Ebenezer M. McPherson, Oliver O. Jones.

VIII. Ministerial Relief: *Ministers*—George C. Yeisley, Cornelius S. Stowitts, Alfonso R. Olney, William M. Johnson; *Elders*—William H. Doughty, T. Romeyn Bunn.

IX. Freedmen: *Ministers*—Samuel T. Clarke, William Burnett Wright, Anthony H. Evans, Duncan Cameron; *Elders*—Edward C. Warner, Marcus A. G. Meads, Edward W. Skinner.

X. Aid for Colleges: *Ministers*—George Alexander, Anthony H. Evans, John R. Davies, E. Huntting Rudd; *Elders*—William E. Stiger, D. Willis James, George H. Southard.

XI. Young People's Societies: *Ministers*—Samuel W. Pratt, Edward M. Deems, Alfred J. Hutton, Warren D. More, Louis F. Ruf; *Elders*—Philip M. Hull, Richard H. Bloom, Harry C. Heermans, Herbert J. Hunn.

XII. Temperance: *Ministers*—James Chambers, G. Parsons Nichols, James Gardner, Henry Ward; *Elders*—Henry W. Jessup, George H. Southard, James H. Loomis.

X. CHAIRMEN OF OTHER COMMITTEES.

1. Arrangements: Rev. Allen F. DeCamp, p. 39.
2. Place of Meeting in 1899: The Moderator.
3. Endowment of Elmira College: See p. 33.
4. Printing Moderator's Address: Rev. James Gardner, D. D., p. 46.
5. Celebration of Adoption of the Standards: Rev. Thomas J. Brown, D.D., p. 48.
6. Auburn Seminary: Rev. Joseph Gamble, D.D., p. 51.
7. Hamilton College: Rev. Joseph H. France, D.D., p. 51.
8. New York University: Rev. Alfred H. Moment, D.D., p. 51.
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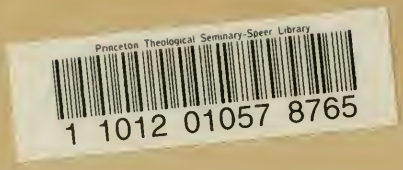
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